Issue No 126 Available from Wednesday, February 24, 2010

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BULLDING ON SOLID ARTS FOUNDATION

Report highlights Creative Quarter's progress and plans

MORE than 120 people packed Quarterhouse last week to hear a Creative Foundation report on the charity's plans and progress.

The regeneration of Folkestone's Creative Quarter was top of the agenda on Thursday as official Peter Bettley spoke about the work taking place to renovate buildings in The Old High Street and Tontine Street.

The meeting was prompted by negative publicity about artists who had quit the area complaining of high

BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

rents and a lack of communication. Mr Bettley explained that money from the Roger De Haan Charitable Trust was used to buy neglected buildings, which are then managed independently by the foundation to bring them up to standard.

He used a presentation of beforeand-after photographs to illustrate his point. "The basic premise was to challenge any assertion that nothing has changed," Mr Bettley said. "I also needed to remind people the £50 million input by the Roger De Haan trust was an entirely charitable investment and not a cynical exercise in property development. Any rise in value over the next 125 years will be cascaded back to future trustees for charitable purposes, as regulated by charity law.

"Then we talked about the principles behind how we approach purchasing and reconstructing the buildings, generally needing to spend at least 50 per cent more than the building is eventually worth to make it a decent space for people to live or work in. We are trying to address half a century of neglect in most cases. Only

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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RIDING HIGH AS A RUGBY LEGEND

England rugby titan Lawrence Dallaglio will be cycling into Folkestone as part of a tour of all Six Nations to raise £1 million for charity.

The World Cup winner, who was capped 85 times, will be at Folkestone Rugby Club on Thursday. He set out from Rome on February 12 before heading to Paris, Twickenham, Cardiff, Dublin and finishing in Edinburgh on March 13. The total distance is 2,800 kilometres and 24 days in the saddle, with Dallaglio aiming to arrive at Twickenham on Friday in time for the weekend's England v Ireland clash. Funds will be divided between Sports Relief and the Dallaglio Foundation, set up after the death of his mother, Eileen, from cancer in December 2008.

For more information, go to www.dallagliocycleslam.com. To make a donation, visit www.justgiving.com/dallagliocycleslam.



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2 Ke

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100

Ful man



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New head for school hit by slaughter row

LYDD primary school has a new head-teacher this week after her predecessor stepped down following the furore over sending the school sheep to be slaughtered.

Advisory head-teacher Penny Haynes took up her place on Monday.

It has been claimed that Andrea Charman had been the victim of a vicious online campaign after allowing the lamb Marcus to be sent to the abattoir, generating a worldwide media frenzy and online calls for her resignation.

The story divided opinion over whether young children should have been faced with such a decision, but Shepway MP Michael Howard said the "relentlessness" of the campaign had led to the loss of a great headteacher.

Violence

In a statement he said: "A campaign of vituperation was started on the internet and, in particular, on Facebook, directed at Mrs Charman personally.

"It was the relentlessness of this campaign, which included threats of violence, which has proved the final straw for Mrs Charman.

"She has decided that the campaign is interfering with her ability to run the school, so she has decided to leave.

"I have no doubts that she will get another headship, but that school's gain will be Lydd's loss. An excellent head-teacher will depart because of the pressure exerted through the internet and on Facebook.

"It is a sad day for Lydd and has wider implications for the future of our society."

An online petition calling for the

BY **JAMES ALEXANDRE**

removal of Ms Charman gained almost 2,500 signatures, while a Facebook group originally set up to save Marcus has almost 1,500 mem-

Meanwhile, Mrs Charman's daughter Ruth has set up a group in tribute to her mother's work, which has attracted almost 450 members so far

In the group description she wrote: "The decision to leave was not down to the influence of complaints etc — it was made for personal reasons.

"Although it is undoubtable (sic) that the untruths in the media and harassment caused by individuals would have had a negative impact on the school, staff and pupils.

"She will continue to work in schools within the area, with the support of the county."

At the time of the outcry, Mrs Charman defended her decision to go through with the slaughter and said the pupils had "voted overwhelming-ly" for it to go ahead, and until the media interest began she had received no objections to it.

She said: "Since the wether lamb

She said: "Since the wether lamb arrived, it has always been made clear in a tactful and factual way that lambs are meat.

"The children have had a range of opportunities to discuss this issue, both in terms of the food cycle and the ethical aspect.

"Children from years 2 and above were given the opportunity to choose what happened to the wether lamb.

"It was made clear that it could be kept as a pet or sold to go for meat to raise money for the school farm to buy more animals.

"It was discussed in school council. Each class had the opportunity to discuss it." yourshepway
NEWS IN BRIEF

Missing pensioner's body is found in sea

A BODY found off the Essex coast has been confirmed as that of a 71-year-old Hythe man who had been reported missing.

ed missing.

Peter Phillips was reported missing from his Palm Beach Avenue home on Thursday, February 11, the last day that his stepdaughter had spoken to him – he had not been seen or spoken to since then.

A lifeboat crew spotted the body floating about 30 miles from the coast and it was taken back to Harwich.

Formal identification has taken place and next of kin have been informed.

Café readings to back community project

BOOK READINGS are being held at a Folkestone café to support a community reading project.

The Home Ground Café Bar in The Old High Street is hosting the readings, called Feel-Good Framed, every Tuesday in March.

Members of the Kent Libraries team will be reading from Frank Cottrell Boyce's book Framed, which has been available to pick up at venues around Folkestone since January.

For more information about the readings, phone 0845 8247200 or go to www.homegroundcb.co.uk.

£50,000 for expert advice on new homes

SHEPWAY council is one of 36 authorities to be awarded a share of £1 million for expert advice on building 10,000 high-quality homes.

The fund, jointly provided by the Department for Communities and Local Government and Defra, will provide expert assistance and training on master-planning and design.

Shepway has been allocated £50,000 to work on strategic master-planning in Sellindge to work with the community and find sites for homes.

The average house is now more than £40,000 more expensive in rural areas compared with urban areas.



For information and advice on travelling in Kent and for all our traffic regulation orders, please see the Kent on Saturday or the Kent on Sunday or visit our website at **www.kent.gov.uk/highways**

Decision time for airport

BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

LYDD airport's boss has issued a final appeal to Shepway councillors to vote in favour of controversial expansion plans.

The effects on important wildlife habitat and the noise impact on nearby houses have been cited as reasons for turning down the applications for a 300-metre runway extension and 500,000-passenger terminal.

Officers recommended in a supplementary report released on Friday that the applications should be turned down, ahead of next month's crucial planning meeting.

Lydd's managing director Jonathan Gordon said the authority's experts were wrong in their conclusions and urged councillors to vote yes on Wednesday, March 3.

Mr Gordon said: "We have invested £27 million in Lydd in recent years and plan to invest a further £25 million in the project to deliver a modern, sustainable regional airport that Kent can be proud of.

"This is a significant private sector investment in the future of the Marsh at no cost to

He expressed his disappointment and frustration at the officers' remaining concerns, which he said were unfounded:

"On the one hand, officers acknowledge that noise issues are relatively minor and not in themselves a reason for refusal.

"On the other hand they say that, if there are other reasons for refusal, let's 'shove it in'. That's not a reasonable or proper way to assess this important issue.

"The fact is that the noise impact of the development is relatively minor, and should not be a reason for refusal.

He also said about the impact on one of the



IS THIS A SHOT OF THE FUTURE? An artist's impression of the 500,000-passenger terminal that forms part of the controversial expansion proposals for Lydd airport

habitats sites: "The simple fact is that our team includes the leading experts on these issues and the council's consultants are not expert, and have reached the wrong conclusions. We will explain this to members at com-

He said a 'yes' vote would create more than

500 high-quality, well-paid jobs. He said: "The decision they take is going to have a huge impact on our district for years to

"I'm confident that we have put forward a

compelling case for members of Shepway council to make the right choice and support Lydd Airport.'

Louise Barton, of action group LAAG, which opposes the expansion, said she was not surprised at the report's recommendations but added that the matter was not over yet.

She said: "The airport had been given months to provide new evidence in an attempt to overturn the recommendations, but the officers have come to the same conclusion.

"The habitats regulations are strong - either

you prove you would cause damage, or you can't. It's now a wait-and-see game. This will inevitably go to a public inquiry.

"The number of jobs produced from this expansion will be very small, due to the lost

A special council meeting of all 46 councillors will vote on the plans at the Civic Centre on March 3.

The decision will also be broadcast on Shepway's website and there will be a live link-up with the Marsh Academy to watch the

Council tax bill to rise by extra £35

THE average household in the district will pay £35 extra in council tax this year after Shepway members voted on the authority's share last week.

The total bill is divided between Kent County Council, which takes the majority, Shepway council, town and parish councils, Kent Police and Kent Fire and Rescue.

Councillors on Shepway voted last Thursday for a 2.9 per cent increase in its share for an average Band D house, an extra £6.93. This means the council will take home £245.87 out of a typical tax bill of £1,535.26, or 16 per cent.

Kent County Council has also decided on its 68.3 per cent share, equivalent to £1,047.78, while Kent Police has agreed on its 9 per cent share, equal to £138.68.

Town and parish councils take up 2.3 per cent or £34.98 while Kent Fire and Rescue will also take £67.95 (4.4 per cent).

KCC said the cost of coping with asylum seekers was driving up its share of the council tax by an extra £21.51 for a band D home

The county council, which has an annual budget of around £2.2billion, had wanted to set a tax rise of just 1.86 per cent.

Buildings 'would just collapse without help'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE philanthropic activity could make this kind of intervention.

"We also pay proper heed to restrictions placed on us by conservation area status, trying to factor in good architectural features to any

plans for redesign.

"The few buildings that are listed give us particular headaches as it is often very difficult to devise an affordable scheme that will meet English Heritage approval.

Among those in the audience was Ann Berry, chairwoman of Go Folkestone, which campaigns to improve

the townscape and quality of life.

Ms Berry said: "I thought it was marvellous, there was a good, positive turnout and I look forward to other meetings.
"Some people think Mr De Haan is

just a property developer, when he has put his own money into trying to keep these buildings going. They

would collapse without his help.
"Because of the economic situation people have found a drop-off in foot-fall and this has been the source of many of the problems."

Mr Bettley said just over 80 of the buildings had been bought, with 200 jobs created or sustained in the Creative Quarter. It is hoped that as



RENOVATION: The Katmando, inside and out



many as possible will be reconstructed or renovated in time for next year's Triennial in June, with the rest completed by 2014.



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Funding motors on in aid of Leas Lift

A CLASSIC green London double-decker bus will be among the transport treasures making an appearance in Folkestone at the weekend in aid of the Leas Lift fund.

The vintage vehicles of yesteryear will be on public display later this month to raise the profile of the Leas Lift Carriage

Restoration Appeal fund.

The fund's treasurer, Robert Mouland, said the team behind the project was doing its utmost to restore the town's iconic step-carriage, which is 120 years old, and calling on the community to support this vital piece of heritage.

The show is on Saturday (Feb 27) in the Sandgate precinct outside Debenhams from 9.30am-3.30pm.

Donations can be made to bank account number 21433784, sort code 40-

Election count will be made overnight

SHEPWAY council has confirmed that the vote count for this year's general election will take place overnight, rather than the following morning.

There had been growing speculation that as many as a quarter of the country's returning officers had been planning to delay counting the ballots until

the day after as a cost-cutting move.

But Shepway chief executive Alistair
Stewart has confirmed otherwise and the votes will be counted as per usual throughout the night as soon as the polls

Folkestone and Hythe MP Michael Howard will be standing down at the election, widely expected to be held on May 6, after 27 years in office.

VIEW THIS CLIP ON yourkenttv.co.uk Hour LOCAL TV ONLINE Blind cricket in New York.

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What did aliens want with MP?



BEING WATCHED? Michael Howard

BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

SHEPWAY MP Michael Howard could have been the target of an alien intrusion at his Lympne home, according to top-secret documents released last week.

At least three eyewitnesses in Burmarsh and New Romney spotted a large, triangular object which was 'humming' near Mr Howard's house during his final months as Home Secretary in

It was claimed that the UFO hovered for several minutes above a field on March 8 before

shooting off in a flash of light. An investigation by the RAF found that there was no evidence of unauthorised air activity or any security alert in the area at the time, according to documents released by the National Archives.

The object was said to be the size of two passenger planes and the sighting was one of more than 1,600 UFOs reported to the Ministry of Defence between 1996 and 2000 at a rate of almost one a day.

Triangle

An amateur UFO-reporting group, UFO Monitoring East Kent (UFOMEK), sent in its own report to the Government, quoting an eyewitness who said: "It was just a huge triangle thing, which was a lot bigger than an aeroplane or anything like that.

"It had lights all around the outside, and this disc attached to the back, and a big light on the front. I pulled up to a stop and as I did it shot off.

"I was really frightened by it and I'm not stupid. I don't believe in anything like that "This is not something I've ever seen before or

like something we would have built." Chris Rolfe, coordinator of UFOMEK, warned at the time that the object could have been looking for Mr Howard.

He was quoted in the report to have said: "It would seem the UFO was disinterested in Sophie, the girl who reported it and watched it for quite a long time.

"This certainly makes it seem like it had a purpose and has left me wondering if its pur-

pose had something to do with Mr Howard."

An RAF investigation after the sighting found nothing and said there was no evidence of a security breach.

One letter from the MoD addressed to an unnamed witness said: "Your letters mention a UFO sighting over the home of the former Home Secretary Michael Howard, near Folkestone.

"Although the MoD has received reports of an alleged 'UFO' sighting near Michael Howard's home on March 8, 1997, MoD air defence staff have confirmed that there is no evidence to suggest any unauthorised incursion of the UK Air Defence Region on that date."

Drifting boat trawled in from Channel

THE Dover and Dungeness lifeboats combined forces to tow ashore a stricken trawler drifting in the busy shipping lanes of the English Channel in freez-

ing weather.
The 130-tonne trawler suffered gearbox failure which required the assistance of the two volunteer RNLI lifeboat crews when it broke down and started drifting in the busy

south-west shipping lane.
The Dungeness lifeboat launched first to the disabled Plymouth-registered vessel.

After taking the vessel under

tow, the ships were making slow progress towards Dover, so the decision was made to launch the larger Dover lifeboat to assist as the turning tide would be soon be ebbing and working against the rescuers.

Conditions during the rescue



RESCUED: The 130-tonne trawler required the help of two volunteer RNLI lifeboats

were difficult, with freezing temperatures and periods of poor visibility as heavy snow showers

passed through the Channel. Also, gale-force winds meant that sea conditions were rough.

with a two- to three-metre swell. The Dover crew headed out to

rendezvous with the other vessels. Once on scene, the tow was transferred to the larger lifeboat and all three vessels headed for

Arriving off Dover, an extra line was attached from the stern of the trawler to the Dungeness lifeboat to ensure the stricken ship was firmly under control.

The three vessels then entered Dover harbour, where the trawler, with three people onboard, was moored safely in the tug-haven area of the port.

Dover RNLI Coxswain Stuart Richardson said: "This was our first call-out for almost four months, but everything went smoothly and it was nice for me to be able to work with my friends and former crewmates on the Dungeness lifeboat.





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UNSIGHTLY: Some 500 tyres were dumped across Romney Marsh at five locations during October last year

Man is arrested after probe into Marsh dumping

A MAN suspected of dumping car tyres across Romney Marsh has been arrested by police in Essex.

Officers from Kent Police, Kent County Council and Shepway council were involved in tracking down the man, from Chelmsford, after some 500 tyres were left at five locations on the Marsh in October last year.

The arrest follows a report by Yourshepway about a Dymchurch farmer who had spoken out against flytippers after he found about 100 tyres at the entrance to one of his fields next to St Mary's Road.

The arrested man was taken to South Woodham Ferrers police station and ques-tioned by Shepway and KCC enforcement officers.

"As a result of the interview, he has been reported for summons for five offences under Section 33 of the Environmental Protection

Intelligence on the suspect had been supplied by Kent Police's Shepway West neighbourhood team.

Hugh Barker, Shepway's cabinet member for community safety, said: "One of the council's key objectives is to improve the appearance of the district.

"This involves everything from making sure our streets are clean to taking action against flytipping, which creates a blot on Shepway's beautiful landscape.

BY **JAMES ALEXANDRE**

"This arrest shows that we are prepared to follow through these actions and will serve as a warning to others that blighting our landscape will not be tolerated."

Roger Piper, whose Tatnum Farm was one of the targets of October's flytipping, said the problem had been around for a long time but had increased in the last few years.

He told Yourshepway: "The flytippers have plenty of opportunities around here - it's very rural with lots of lanes.

"It's usually because businesses have to pay to get rid of their rubbish and it ends up somewhere like here, out of the way.

"You name it, we've had everything dumped here. Gas cylinders, refrigerators, bedsteads, a burnt-out car which was probably stolen.

"There was even some asbestos sheeting left at the end of the road, about a Transitvan-load of it."

He said the tyres were left on the morning of October 26, some of them having been chalked with numbers that were close together, suggesting they formed part of series.

Yourshepway has launched a campaign to urge readers to help catch flytippers who spoil the countryside.

If you see anyone dumping rubbish, please phone the council on 01303 858660 or contact

Crews rescue man from burning flat

AN unconscious man was rescued from a burning block of flats in Folkestone yesterday after he fell asleep and left his food to

Three fire-engines raced to the scene in Marine Terrace after the alarm was raised just after 8.30pm when a passer-by reported smoke pouring from a second-floor win-

Fire-fighters were told there were people trapped inside and made their way into the smoke-logged building.

Iain Knox, the fire-safety officer who was at the scene, said: "Fortunately, most of the residents acted on hearing the main smoke alarms sounding and left the prem-

"However, breathing-apparatus crews did find a man unconscious and trapped in a flat on the second floor. He was led to safety and given first-aid treatment and oxygen for smoke inhalation.

"After the fire was tackled it was clear what had happened: the man, believed to be in his 30s, had been cooking and fell asleep, leaving the food unattended which subsequently caught light, wrecking the cooker and causing smoke-damage to the flat."

The man was afterwards taken to hospital as a precaution.

yourshepway **NEWS** IN BRIEF

Charity rickshaw venture

A FOLKESTONE warehouse manager is taking part in a 4,000km adventure across India in a rickshaw to raise funds for charity.

Ian Bilik and his brother-in-law Shaun Gooch have entered as The Wrong Way Up team in this spring's Rickshaw Run, where tiny three-wheeled machines will cross the Indian subcontinent.

They and the other 75 teams from around the world will start in the coastal town of Cochin before heading inland and ending up deep in the hills of the Himalayas in Gantok,

Each team has to raise a minimum of £1,000 for charity, so the adventure will raise some £75,000 overall for charities in India.

The race starts in Cochin on Sunday, March 28. You can follow the team's progress and donate by going to http://www.justgiving.com/The-Wrong-Way-Up or http://www.justgiving.com/Ian-Bilik0.

Builder denies murder

A BUILDER has denied murdering a woman at a house in Greatstone.

Paul Fender, 43, of The Parade in Greatstone, appeared at Maidstone Crown Court on Monday, February 21, accused of killing Karren Martin in Hardy Road on November 20 last year. A post-mortem examination the next day confirmed that she had died of a single stab wound.

Fender was remanded in custody and will be tried at Croydon Crown Court on Monday, June 7, due to a backlog of cases at

Chef gets a Michelin star

CHARLIE Lakin, of The Marquis, is one of only three chefs in England to be awarded a rising one star in the 2010 Michelin Guide.

The 200-year-old former village inn has been converted into a luxury boutique restaurant with rooms in the heart of the pic-

turesque Alkham Valley.
Situated in an Area of Outstanding Natural
Beauty, The Marquis offers a seasonallyinspired menu created by Mr Lakin.

Emphasis is on locally-sourced ingredients such as the catch of the day landed by fishing boats at Deal, rabbit from the Alkham Valley and wild herbs from surrounding countryside.



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Remembering the Few at 70

BY **MIKE BENNETT**

A SERIES of spectacular events will take place in Kent this summer to mark the 70th anniversary of the greatest air battle in history.

The Battle of Britain, which was fought in the skies above the county, heralded a major turning point in Word War Two.
Woithout aerial dominance, Hitler's

Nazis were prevented from mounting a planned invasion of Britain, stemming the tide of the German advance across Europe in 1940.

From his home at Chartwell, near Westerham, Prime Minister Winston Churchill dubbed the battle Britain's "finest hour".

To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the triumph, Biggin Hill Air Fair is plan-LEADER: Churchill ning an airfield attack and aerial dis-

play in June, and a major event will be staged at the National Memorial to the battle at Capel-le-

Ferne, near Folkestone, in July.
The county's Spitfire, The Spirit of Kent, will also soar above the War and Peace Show at the Hop Farm in Paddock Wood in July.

The Battle of Britain raged over Kent from July 10 until October 31, 1940, with brave RAF pilots winning spectacular dog-fights, despite being completely outnumbered by the German Luftwaffe.

In a rousing address from Chartwell, Churchill declared in August, 1940, that: "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many

The four months of intense aerial dogfights were fought above Kent to win dominance of the skies and also to protect London from Nazi attacks.

There were 71 squadrons within RAF Fighter Command, and the airmen known as 'The Few' came not only from Britain

but also Poland, France, Belgium, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa.

A major celebration of the 70th anniversary of the triumph is planned for July 11 this year at the National Memorial at Capel-le-Ferne, on the cliffs between Folkestone and Dover.

The most famous RAF fighter station at Biggin Hill airfield, which is now an airport near Westerham, will commemorate the anniversary at its 47th annu-

Events will include a spectacular airfield attack enhanced through sound, pyrotechnics and giant screens, to help create the summer of 1940.

al Air Fair on June 26-27.

It will host a great number of Spitfires, Hurricanes and other key aircraft from the battle and has invited representatives and aircraft from the Allied nations to join the commemorations



WARBIRDS TAKE TO THE COUNTY'S SKIES AGAIN

TWO iconic Battle of Britain aircraft will return to the skies above Kent this year for the War and Peace Show. The popular annual event will be held at The Hop Farm in Paddock Wood just weeks after the celebrations marking the 70th anniversary of the turning point of World War Two.

The county's Spitfire fighter Spirit of Kent and the German Messerschmitt 108 (pictured) will take to the skies on Sunday, July 25.

Show organiser Rex Cadman said: "It will be good to hear the throaty roar of the Spitfire, particularly in such an important year, when we are celebrating the most significant event in the history of the RAF.

"The aircraft's appearance at the War and Peace Show is a tribute to the courageous airmen whose skill and determination played a council role in turning defeat into victory.

and determination played a crucial role in turning defeat into victory.

The return of the Messerschmitt 108 provides a rare opportunity for people to see a German wartime air:

This machine was not a fighter, in the style of its sister aeroplane the Messerschmitt 109, but these machines were very much in the frontline, serving on fighter squadrons in the communications role."

Paul Campbell, of the Kent Spitfire, which has arranged the War and Peace Show display, said: "Both aircraft will be in authentic wartime livery and looking their best for such an important anniversary year.

Language schools speechless over Government visa rules

A CLAMPDOWN on foreign students entering the UK has sparked fears of a huge drop in numbers at Kent's language schools, colleges and universities

Under new Home Office rules designed to reduce abuse of the system, visa applicants must now be able to speak a higher level of English before being allowed to stay.

But while many are pleased the Government is cracking down on those who pretend to be students and instead find jobs, further education bodies in Kent rely heavily on foreign intakes and are concerned.

Peter Worley, principal of Hilderstone College in Broadstairs, said: "I'd have thought every language school in the country and all the universities are aghast at these proposals.

"It's akin to dealing with an outbreak of weeds by bulldozing the garden. The Government is putting the language school industry at risk because it can't organise its legislation properly.

"Alan Johnson [the Home Secretary] says students wishing to study English must first have a good grasp of English, which is absurd. "It's like saying you can't learn to drive

unless you have already driven; or can't learn the trumpet until you have a good grasp of it." Currently, anyone who successfully applies for a student visa can travel to the UK and

work legally for up to 20 hours a week. Under the new rules, applicants from outside the EU will have to speak English at a level just below GCSE standard, rather than beginner level as at present.

Those taking courses below degree level will also only be allowed to work 10 hours a week.

It is hoped the legislation will also reduce the threat of terrorism, but North Thanet Tory MP Roger Gale said: "The Home Secretary has ignored cross-party warnings that his propos-als will damage the interests of language schools, colleges and universities while doing nothing to address the real problem, which is illegal immigration and economic migration under the guise of seeking asylum.

"Kent is already suffering as agents placing students are choosing locations other than the UK because of the uncertainty.

"We need to control immigration, but we need to remember foreign students are worth a great deal to our economy, in the short and long term,

as graduates return to do business in Britain.

Most language schools are located along the south coast, with east Kent a particular hotspot.

The sector is worth about £1.5 billion to the economy, and Margate Language Centre principal Jon Burton said he was "shocked, disappointed and bemused" that it was being put at risk by the new legislation.

He said: "It's not just the schools that will miss out, it's Kent as a whole. Foreign students just won't bother coming, yet they are an important part of the economy of the county."

Professor Julia Goodfellow, vice-chancellor of the University of Kent, said she didn't think the legislation would affect applicants.

She said: "The policy is not an issue for universities as we have quite strong criteria anyway."

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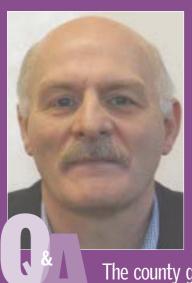
This course is the equivalent to 3 A-Levels and will prepare you either for university or to enter the media industries.



yourlocalinterview

QUESTION & ANSWER

GEOFF DIXON



Tell us a bit about yourself

I'm 54 and have been married to Judi for 30 years next November. We have two daughters who have both gone through the Kent Music system, from beginner lessons right through to the Kent County Youth Orchestra. I worked in London for the first 22 years of my career as an orchestral musician in the military, playing French horn and violin, and as a peripatetic brass teacher for the Inner London Education Authority.

When and why did you join the team at Kent Music?

I joined Kent County Youth Orchestra in late 1991 as a supervisor on residential courses while still serving in the Army and became the county group's music librarian in January 1994. Since then I have taken on a succession of managerial roles. In May 2000 I was appointed manager of the Kent County Youth Orchestra and in September 2009 I assumed my current role as general manager, county groups.

What does you role involve?

I oversee the provision of Kent's many groups, which are run by Kent Music for Kent County Council and Medway Council. There are approximately 700 musicians aged between seven and 25 in 16 county

level groups: eight choirs, two orchestras, two wind bands, a jazz orchestra, two recorder ensembles and the Kent Music Academy. We also run our three-week summer school, which attracts 1,000 young musicians.

What do enjoy most about your job?

Watching young musicians as they start out in our junior groups and develop over 10 to 12 years to produce music of real quality in well-rehearsed and polished concerts.

Tell us about the history of Kent Music

Kent Music started 62 years ago and now teaches 15,000 students across Kent. We have 14 music centres where we teach children mainly ensemble work and they are spread across the Kent region, which means that wherever you are you should have access to a centre.

Does Kent Music offer one-to-one and group classes?

Kent Music offers all types of tuition from one-to-one to small groups (two in a class) through to whole-class tuition where 30 children will all be learning to play an instrument through the Wider Opportunities scheme in primary schools. Wider Opportunities aims to give all children the opportunity to learn about music through playing an instrument.

■ What are the benefits of group sessions?

The benefits of group sessions are being able to learn with friends and develop your skill in a group, which is great practice if you want to join a band. Group sessions also allow you to keep costs down as you share the fee with others.

Why do you think music is a good talent to have?

Learning to play a musical instrument develops many useful skills in young people, such as the ability to work on their own while practising and also to work as part of a team when rehearsing in groups. Individual and group-music lessons instil confidence, discipline and commitment.

Kent Music hosts plenty of events throughout the year – what have you got coming up in 2010?

We are presenting a short festival of Kent Music County Groups concerts in Chatham, starting on Friday, April 9, with the Kent Youth Jazz Orchestra at the Brook Theatre. On Saturday, April 10, we have the Kent County Youth Orchestra playing Dvorak's New World Symphony in the Central Theatre, and lastly we have the Kent Youth Choirs and Kent Youth Wind Orchestra playing music from Broadway on Sunday, April 11, also at the Central Theatre. Details are available from www.kent-music.com.

The county groups general manager at Kent Music talks to **Anna White** about the organisation and its upcoming summer concerts and the numerous benefits of learning to play an instrument at a young age



Shepway District Council and Kent Police are working together To report graffiti, please call Shepway District Council on 01303 853000 For actions on priorities where you live visit www.kent.police.uk/yousaidwedid





FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

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Ashford

Chatham

Dartford

Faversham

Folkestone

Gillingham

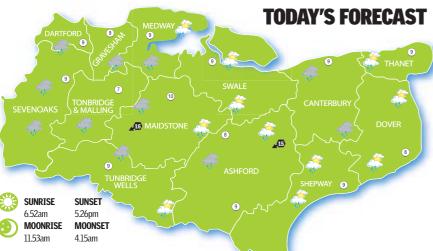
Dover

Canterbury

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WFFKFND



Sat

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	HIGH	TIDES	5
Chatham	Saturday	11:38am	6.0m
	Sunday	12:28pm	6.3m
Dover	Saturday	9:52am	6.4m

Cnatnam	Saturday	11:38am	6.UM
	Sunday	12:28pm	6.3m
Dover	Saturday	9:52am	6.4m
	Sunday	10:39am	6.7m
Dungeness	Saturday	9:50am	7.2m
	Sunday	10:39am	7.7m
Ramsgate	Saturday	10:22am	4.9m
	Sunday	11:09am	5.1m
Sheerness	Saturday	11:27am	5.7m
	Sunday	12:18pm	6.0m
Whitstable	Saturday	11:32am	5.2m
	Sunday	12:25pm	5.4m

AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	4°C	Madrid	11°C
Athens	15°C	New York	6°C
Barcelona	12°C	Paris	12°C
Beijing	3°C	Rome	15°C
Bombay	31°C	Sydney	36°C
Cape Town	30°C	Tenerife	23°C
Cardiff	3°C	Tokyo	7°C
Gibraltar	18°C	Vancouver	8°C
Hong Kong	18°C	Warsaw	2°C
Las Palmas	23°C	Wellington	20°C

No power from station for past seven months

IT was the first commercial-scale power station to be built in the UK, producing enough electricity to power a million homes.

But for seven months Dungeness power station has lain dormant and experts say operator EDF could be losing as much as £2 million a week. One of two reactors at Dungeness B was closed in July 2009 for routine maintenance and the second closed in November when repairs had to be carried out after a fire.

EDF has been unable to give a specific time of when it would be in service again, citing commercial reasons. But industry experts say statutory maintenance, as well as the repair work, should not have taken this long.

Serious

Expert John Large, of Large and Associates in London, said eight to ten weeks was the usual timescale.

"There could be a serious problem. It could be the fuel plugs or a problem with the graphite core of the reactors.

"It doesn't matter if the power station isn't working, they still have to supply the National Grid," he said. "They will be going to other power stations to get electricity. They will be losing a massive amount of money."

An EDF official said the shutdown of the first reactor was for normal statutory outage and most of the work had been completed.

She said: "We have a small number of inspections to do which are external to the reactor and we are obtaining specialist equipment.

"Once this arrives, inspections will be carried out and we expect to return the unit to service.

"The other unit is nearing completion of its outage and does not need these additional inspections. We expect to return to service in the near future.

A Health and Safety Executive official said consent was required before reactors could be restarted and an assessment was under way.







For more details telephone **Richard Purvis on** 01303 817071

LAA London Ashford Airport (Lydd)

The planning applications to expand the airport will be considered by Shepway District Council at the Civic Centre, Folkestone on Wednesday 3 March at 7.00pm

Follow the debate in your own home

If you have a PC you can watch the debate in your own home. You will be able to view the planning meeting as it happens through the use of your internet connection by logging on to **www.shepway.gov.uk** and clicking on the webcasting link.

The webcast is going to be available for viewers with Windows Media Video software developed by Microsoft. In the unlikely event that your computer does not already have wmv software on it, a free copy is available from the on-line Microsoft Download Centre at

www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/download/AllDownloads.aspx

The time taken to download the free software will depend on the speed of your internet connection and so it is recommended that you try clicking on the webcasting link a couple of days in advance to see if you need to download the software or not.

View the debate live at the Marsh Academy Theatre, New Romney

The meeting will be relayed to a large screen at The Marsh Academy Theatre in Station Road, New Romney, where copies of the report to councillors will also be available. Free parking.

Please note there is no seating available in the council chamber in Folkestone

Shepway Council's council chamber is very small and all seats in the public gallery have had to be reserved for people speaking at the meeting.

However, we are relaying the meeting via screens to other rooms at the Civic Centre. Please note for health and safety reasons, seating is limited to 106 places and will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

Parking

If you are not an invited speaker please note that car parking is NOT available at the Civic Centre. Parking is available at the nearby Leas Cliff Hall Car Park, Sandgate Road, Folkestone.



Badly behaved boars lined up in farmers' sights

BY MARIJKE COX

WILD boar wreaking havoc in the Kent countryside have forced desperate farmers to demand a widespread cull.

The herds are being blamed for killing lambs, destroying crops and, in the worst cases, attacking dogs, as they expand across the county.

Some farmers have admitted to losing thousands of pounds each year as the pigs destroy their crops, with others having to fork out for new fences to replace ones ripped apart by the animals.

And despite wild boar preferring the more wooded areas of the Kent and Sussex borders, an increasing number are now being spotted in eastern parts of the county.

Isabelle Bretherton, from the National Farmers' Union (NFU), said this is unsurprising as they are known to travel large distances.

"Once they have finished eating woodland plants in one area they will quickly move on to another," she said.

Risk of disease, damage to crops and attacks on livestock has pushed the NFU to back calls for management through culling.

"At the moment there is no management and this needs to be looked at," said Ms Bretherton. "Like any wildlife, when the population reaches large levels, culling is sadly required. They shouldn't be wiped out altogether, but numbers need to be controlled."

Experts believe there could be more than 500 roaming between Kent and East Sussex.

And without predators such as wolves, the animals are top of the food chain, meaning numbers are not controlled naturally.

Hunting is permitted throughout the year and around 100 landowners have licences to cull them on their land.

Meat stocks from the animals provide butchers with quality, sought-after produce, but those in the agricultural industry still believe numbers need to be managed.

Diversity

Critics, however, say wild boar add to the rich diversity of the countryside.

rich diversity of the countryside.

Peter Smith, from the Wildwood Trust at
Herne, near Canterbury, agreed there needs
to be some control, but stressed they should
not be eradicated.

But farmer Jenny Farrant, who runs a farm in Beckley, on the border of Kent and Sussex, said some of her land has been destroyed, losing her about £50,000 over the years

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has drawn up a three-year action plan to help rural communities in Kent deal with the problem.



EXPANDING FAMILY: Rapidly breeding wild boar have brought calls for a cull from farmers in Kent and East Sussex



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LEADING names in Kent's pub trade have raised doubts over what the industry's new government minister can achieve just months before the general election.

While welcoming the appointment of John Healey as Britain's first pubs minister, both Shepherd Neame chief executive Jonathan

Neame and Thorley Taverns operations director Phil Thorley remain sceptical about a position that may cease to exist if the Conservatives win power.

Mr Thorley said: "It's like winning a penalty after the final whistle has already been blown – too little, too late.

"It's good to see they've finally recognised the industry needs focus, but for me it's just a token gesture in an attempt to win votes.

"There's something like 20 per cent fewer pubs today than when the Government came in 13 years ago, but they decide to appoint a minister just months before the

minister just months before the election. We've had to deal with so many new laws and issues affecting the pub trade. It would take anyone time to understand them all, by the time John Healey does it will be too late for him to do anything about them."

The Thorley Taverns chain consists of 21 pubs in east Kent as well as clubs, restaurants and function rooms.

An estimated 40 UK pubs have closed

An estimated 40 UK pubs have closed every week over the past year, with challenges facing the industry including the recession, high rents, the smoking ban, changing consumer habits and cheap alcohol

in supermarkets. It is understood Mr Healey will consider introducing business tax breaks and relaxed planning laws to help pubs survive, something Mr Neame – chief executive of Britain's oldest brewer – is keen to see come to fruition. He said: "To have a single point of contact for the industry is extremely

beneficial, because previously we would have to deal with different departments for different issues and it was all very dysfunctional.

"But the obvious question is: what's he here for and what does he propose to do?

"Essentially the Government's policy on alcohol over the last 15 years has favoured vodka and cider over beer, and nightclubs and supermarkets over traditional pubs, and we would like to see that reversed."

Mr Neame said he had already written to Mr Healey with suggestions of how he could help the pub trade, including freezing beer duty and offering rates relief

beer duty and offering rates relief for pubs that provide other community services like internet access, public toilets and post offices

A self-confessed beer lover, Mr Healey is a member of the All-Party Parliamentary Beer group and a regular at pubs in his Wentworth constituency in South Yorkshire.

Wentworth constituency in South Yorkshire.

He said: "While we can't stop every pub from closing, it's right we do everything possible to back them.

"But they need help now, so I am determined to have a deal on the table with a package of help in the next few weeks."



yourschools



BREAK TIME

Musical pupils play to win glass trophy

PUPILS at Sandwich Technology School will compete for the Sgt Duane Barwood Challenge Trophy on Friday.

Sgt Barwood, a music-lover, died while serving in Iraq in February 2008. Students will showcase their talents as

solo singers, duets, singing groups, solo instrumentalists and group musicians, covering music from classical to rock and pop throughout the morning.

From 2pm, star performers from the morning session will progress to the second stage. Certificates will be presented to winners at 3pm, followed by the presentation to the overall winner of an engraved glass trophy.

Weather closures cut no ice with **Pent Valley head**

PENT VALLEY pupils braved snow and ice to reach school and still enjoyed plenty of fun as well as regular lessons.

During severe weather earlier this month, the specialist technology college in Surrenden Road, Folkestone, was the only secondary in the area to remain open. As a gesture of goodwill, staff and students were provided with free food and drink.

Head-teacher Mario Citro said: "Schools should do all they can to ensure there are facilities available for young people to be supervised and safe.

"There is a great deal of statistical evidence to show that the safest place for

Café's service with a smile

BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

THERE'S a very good reason these proud members of staff at a village café are all smiles.

All four work in the Looking Ahead church café in Sea Street, St Margaret's, and have received NVQ Level 2 qualifications in food and drink services from South Kent College the equivalent of five GCSEs.

Due to special needs, they were allowed 15 months to study for their qualifications, but all of them finished early.

Director Brian Davenport said: "This isn't just about educating staff, it's also about educating employers, parents and the community about what these people are capable of.

"Half our customers don't realise this café is run by people with disabilities. We've had fantastic support from South Kent College, who were able to help us straight away when we asked how we could offer training to our staff."

Dylan Beatty was one of those who trained for the award. His mother, Janet, who watched the presentation, said: "He's got more qualifications than I have now. I'm very proud, he's done very well."

The project is run by the Looking Ahead group and is non-profit-making, with all pro-



WELL DONE: Looking Ahead cafe staff show off their certificates, watched by supporters and surrounded by diners

ceeds reinvested in other schemes. Since it opened in St Margaret's, the café has won the support of the entire village, with the WI, birthday parties and other community celebrations all being held in the former church.

Supervisor Leanne Doswell, the college's Faustina Gaithuah and Mr Davenport all attended the presentation, with Angela Windsor handing out the certificates.

Mrs Windsor told the staff: "I'm proud of

your achievement. The NVQ Level 2 is equal to five GCSEs, so give yourselves a round of applause because there are many people who haven't achieved this level of success.

Presented with awards were Dylan Beatty, Charlotte Latkovskis, Ed Ridley and Matthew Evans. South Kent College has campuses in Maison Dieu Road, Dover, and Shorncliffe Road, Folkestone. Phone 0845 207 8220 or visit www.skc.ac.uk for details.

young people, especially during such times of difficulty, is in schools.

There is also evidence that at least some of the difficulties encountered by emergency and other key services are due to parents not being able to get to work due to child-care problems.

"There is clearly a role for schools to play in such circumstances, allowing more people to get to work and reduce the impact of the severe weather.

"I am proud of the fact that since I have been at Pent Valley we have always kept

the school open during poor weather.
"This has included periods when the majority of schools in our area were closed.
"I am only able to do this because of the

professionalism of my staff, who often go to great lengths to attend work.

"And I must make special mention of my site team, who are fundamental in enabling us to remain open."



SEND your schools news and pictures to dave.mairs@kosmedia.co.uk. You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to www.yourkenttv.co.uk

Open Morning

Saturday 13th March 2010



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Sun

yourblogger

Dave Mairs suggests that grandiose visions should make way to more pragmatic concerns



You won't hear the word 'sorry' at the bottom of a Kent pothole

SOMETHING extraordinary happened last week: the county council apologised for the state of the roads and the number of potholes that made driving all but impossible in some parts.

Crumbs, a touch of humility from County Hall – something, it's fair to say, that we're not overly used to in this part of the world.

Had KCC leader Paul Carter not been feeling well? One of those nasty winter chills, perhaps? Or maybe the county's highways chief Nick Chard was a little dazed and confused after pranging his car an icy road?

Although the latter might seem the best bet given the number of us who have suffered a similar fate of late, neither of the above misfortunes were, to my knowledge, true.

And, you shouldn't be surprised to learn, the apology didn't come from our leaders at Maidstone, but from Staffordshire County Council.

Not a part of the country I know well, but how refreshing to find a local authority ready to hold up its collective hands and say sorry, we know this wasn't good enough and we'll get it sorted.

It all contrasts rather depressingly with the

bluster emanating from our county hall, where an increasingly arrogant, pompous and selfimportant leadership appears to consider itself beyond the slightest reproach.

beyond the slightest reproach.
Consider the Icelandic banking fiasco that claimed £50 million of KCC's cash. That's our cash, by the way. Your cash.

Were we offered an apology for KCC having been so careless with our money?

OK, let's return quickly to the real world and recall what we did in fact get – a barrage of bleating and whining that the nasty old Audit Commission had decreed KCC's performance in the Icelandic affair to have been 'negligent'.

Legal action was threatened – using our cash, your cash – if the commission didn't remove the word 'negligent' from its report.

Presumably not fancying a potentially lengthy court squabble, the commission 'downgraded' the negligence charge to 'careless'.

I'm not convinced a 'careless' local authority should be handling our millions, but we must live with what we've got... a group seemingly more concerned with promoting its own sanctity than doing what is necessary to keep the county running.

And that, it is all too often forgotten, involves

the mundane: disposing of our rubbish, keeping our libraries stocked with an up-to-date selection of books, keeping our roads in a drivable state...

Which many of them are not at the moment. I've (thus far) got away lightly this winter – I just need my car's tracking fixed after thumping into one pothole too many – but countless people will have been forking out for smashed wheels, shredded tyres, wrecked suspensions and so on as the shocking state of the county's roads has taken its toll

So when Cllr Carter is next unveiling his vision (spare us!) to an adoring audience about how he would like to cover yet more countryside with another road across the Thames, or how he would like a series of lorry parks across Kent, or how he would so like to emulate the wondrous achievements of the Victorians, perhaps someone close to him might venture to suggest that keeping open the roads we've got should be the priority.

Oh, and learning how to say sorry once in a while when he or his authority gets it wrong.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Blogs do not necessarily reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to air as wide a range of opinions as possible. A full name and address must be provided by all bloggers.

GET IN TOUCH...

We want to hear your views



EMAIL: We want your letters, comments and views. Send your subbmissions to editor Dave Mairs at dave.mairs@kosmedia.co.uk

LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering, contact the editor, Dave Mairs, on 01303 817022, or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next blogger, then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of about 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town, log on to www.kentnews.co.uk.

Write to Editor Dave Mairs, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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YES, The X Factor may be over for another year, but the juggernaut rumbles on with the most anticipated concert of 2010.

One of the must-see highlights of the X Factor year is the annual X Factor Live Tour. This year's extravaganza is set to be bigger than ever. Don't miss the chance to win your X Factor tickets and see all the highly talented contestants perform live on the night.

Watch all your favourites from this series including, Jedward, Olly, Lucie, Jamie Afro, Danyl, Stacey — all performing live. The X Factor Live Tour 2010 gives you the opportunity to see this year's winner Joe and all the other finalists on tour. The X Factor Live Tour will also be packed full of special guests and will include performances from some of the show's most memorable characters.

To be in with a chance of winning a pair of tickets to the Saturday, March 20 show at London's O2 Arena, answer this question:

Who was 2009's X Factor winner:

A) Rachel Adedeji

B) Kandy Rain C) Joe McElderry

To enter, simply text your answer either 'win A' 'win B' or 'win C' to 80012. Entrants must put 'Win' before either the winning answer A,B or C. The text line closes on

the winning answer A,B or C. The text line closes on March12, 2010, and the winner will be notified by March 12, 2010.

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yourletters



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EMAIL: Email your letters to the editor, Dave Mairs: dave.mairs@kosmedia.co.uk

TALK TIME

MAX GROVE

The aid worker talks about his work with Folkestone-based charity Mission Aviation Fellowship



What is the history of MAF?

MAF was formed in 1945 in the UK and US by exservicemen and women who flew in the Second World War and saw how useful small aircraft could be in supporting mission work. We operate 120 small aircraft worldwide in 35 countries, flying about 50,000 hours per year in support of more than 1,200 organisations.

How did you get involved and what work do you do for the charity?

I joined MAF with my wife in 1971 after training as a pilot and flew for five years in Ethiopia, then seven in Kenya. I flew from there into many countries, including Sudan, Somalia, Uganda and Chad.

How is MAF helping Haiti?

We have been operating in Haiti for many years, so our three small aircraft were already in position to help. They are now daily carrying emergency supplies from Port-au-Prince to outlying damaged areas.

Could you say a little about the charity's connections with Folkestone?

We needed to move out of London during the late 1970s and since our director already had links with Folkestone it was chosen as the location for our UK offices. We have always had excellent support from people within Kent, including churches and local officials.

How can people get involved or donate?

If you want to find out more about MAF or make a donation, please visit www.maf-uk.org or phone 0845 850 9505.

YOUR LETTERS

Brave act should set legal precedent

WHILE not directly a Kentbased story, there may well be people in Kent in similar circumstances, albeit for different reasons.

BBC veteran presenter Ray Gosling admitted on a radio show that he killed his thenlover who was apparently in the final painful stages of AIDS.

This is likely to have happened before more modern treatments became available, though we don't yet know when.

Remember Kent artist and film-maker Derek Jarman died of this illness way back in 1991. His diaries still make for very uncomfortable reading during his final months.

For Ray Gosling it must have been a very emotional and upsetting thing to do, especially once the doctors advised there was nothing more they could do. He acted out of love and compassion for his then-lover.

While he has now been detained for questioning by Nottingham Police, in my view he should not be vilified for this action, nor charged with either murder or manslaughter.

I have every sympathy for him under very trying circumstances, as with anyone in a similar situation.

I back the calls made recently by Sir Terry Pratchett for an assisted-suicide law in the UK as already happens in some parts of the USA and Switzerland.

Ray Duff Folkestone



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Not only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, you can comment via our website, too.

Beneath most stories on our website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article. To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think.

And remember, our website is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across the district. We will include the best on these pages, too – ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience.

In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of your favourite paper before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out.

On our website you can access, for free, the full newspaper in our highly-acclaimed e-editions.

Political stunts are costing us dear

THE latest attempt by former Conservative town councillor and

party activist Peter Jull to tarnish the reputation of Deal by his incessant attacks on the town council shows just how desperate the Conservatives are.

Mr Jull's most recent "complaint" to the local

standards committee has a go at Cllrs Jim Cronk and Marlene Burnham for being former mayors of the town and therefore honorary presidents of the carnival association.

Mr Jull had a go at me for being the chairman of the committee that appointed a new member of staff who did not meet with Mr Jull's approval but who was by far the best-qualified candidate.

The standards committee decided not to take the complaints further.

The sad things is that Mr Jull's unhelpful behaviour as a Conservative activist is matched by both his fellow Conservatives and the LibDems on the Town Council.

They have spent most of the past year trying every trick in the book to prevent or delay the town council's programme of reform and improvement.

It is time to put an end to their cheap political stunts because they are costing the town and its people very dear.

Clir Bryan Henderson (Labour) Deal Town Council

End of TV highlights spending priorities

THE demise of the Conservatives' ill-fated internet TV channel Kent TV was long overdue.

Kent TV was a Conservative vanity project devised by and for the vainest in local government to promote themselves.

Indeed, it attracted almost no advertising, though the ads were supposed to raise £600,000 a year to pay for the running costs.

The decision to cut out this particular vanity has been taken according to Kent County

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Council's Conservative leader because "in difficult times, spending has to be prioritised" and the "economic situation was a lot different in 2007"

A strange justification. Surely the spending of public money should be prioritised whatever the economic situation.

I am sure that those people who saw their home-care charges increased to raise £600,000 a year would have considered that spending priorities were as important in 2007 as they are in

> Mike Eddy (Labour) **Dover District Council, Mill Hill ward**

Don't cut back on university education

THE Government proposes to make cuts of £449 million in the university sector.

Kent Green Party is urging people to campaign against these cuts for the sake of our young people and everyone who wants access to university education.

The university sector is expecting to turn away up to 300,000 would-be students in the autumn.

Government cuts in funding are to blame. Kent universities and

colleges are all very likely to be turning students away.

The Government found £37 billion in a single day as part of its strategy to prop up the banking system.

At a time of rising unemployment. and bearing in mind persistent skills shortages in the UK, it cannot be acceptable to put people on the dole rather than into higher education.

UCAS says applications from home students are already 22 per cent above last year, and overseas applications are up 28.7 per cent.

The University and College Union has already quite rightly condemned the proposed cuts, which threaten the futures of these applicants.

Cuts can be made elsewhere: in subsidies to civil aviation, the nuclear industry, road-building, the proposed national ID card system and the immense defence budget.

Government should not cut the futures of those prepared to take on the challenges, and costs, of university education.

Steve Dawe Kent Green Party

Helpline that offers support for carers

MORE than five million people across the UK currently care for a loved one, yet more than two-thirds of those do not see themselves as carers or register on the radars of health or care organisations.

Many people take on the role of carer without knowing, often starting with offering to help an elderly relative with shopping, but before they know it they're caring for several hours or more a week.

As a carer, it can be difficult to admit you need support - physically, emotionally or financially.

Without support, you can find yourself struggling with very physical and mental demands, trying to balance work and home life, and potentially risking your own health.

I'm supporting the NHS Carers Direct 'Who Cares?' campaign to help ensure that the millions of carers across the UK are taking advantage of the support available to them.

The Carers Direct helpline can be that all-important first port of call, and as many of the helpline advisers have been carers, they can provide help not only for your family member but for you.
You can contact Carers Direct for

support, information and advice by calling the helpline on 0808 802 02 02 or visiting www.nhs.uk/ carersdirect.

Dr Hilary Jones on behalf of Carers Direct



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At your service for more than 400 years

The George & Dragon 01227 710661 out fordwich Canterbury CT2 0DB

■ The George and Dragon

THE George and Dragon is a free house and the building dates from 1557 while it has been licensed as an ale house since 1562.

It featured in a cult film entitled A Canterbury Tale, by filmmaker Michael Powell when it was known as The Hand of Glory. Another curiosity is that the pub was once the toll house for Fordwich Bridge.

A great selection of real ales, games and books are available and there is free Wi-Fi.

Tasty home-cooked food is served and there are more than 50 whiskies to choose from.

A two-course lunch menu is available for £9.95 from Monday to Friday, while Monday is steak night, Tuesday has gourmet burgers, Wednesday offers a winter warmer and on Fridays, fish is on the menu.

Regular events include psychic evenings and quizzes, with details published on the Facebook group The George and Dragon, Fordwich.

Menu favourites include Cajun mushrooms, barbecue ribs, prawn cocktail, lamb shank, fish and chips and sticky toffee pudding or chocolate browne sundae for dessert.

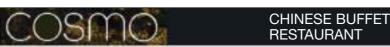
The pub actively supports local charities including Pilgrims Hospice, Kent Smiles, Sunny Days, Cancer Research and Breast Cancer Campaign.

Refurbished last year, the pub's history is detailed in a collection of artefacts and photos.

It is open from 11am until 11pm Mondays to Thursdays (last food orders 9.30pm), 11am until midnight Fridays and Saturdays (last food orders 10pm) and 11am until 10.30pm on Sundays (last food orders 9pm).

On Thursday, February 25, there will be a charity quiz in aid of the Pilgrims Hospice. George and Dragon, King Street, Fordwich CT2 ODB

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out guide



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Popular village pub steeped in history



■ The Walnut Tree

THE INN called the Walnut Tree in Aldington was built during the reign of King Richard II (1377-1399) and has a very colourful his-

Now it is a popular village inn offering excellent food and drink. It is open for business while improvements are being made - including a lowered ceiling and extra beams to keep up its smuggling days ambience

The pub started life as a timber-framed hut with a thatched roof, but by the 17th century ale was being brewed on the premises

During the Napoleonic Wars the village was the stronghold of the Aldington Gang - ruthless smugglers who roamed the nearby Romney Marsh area.

The themed Smugglers restaurant has just undergone a series of improvements with a lower ceiling and new decorations.

Easter is always special in Aldington and on Easter Sunday the pub is open as normal. The following day the local point-to-point meeting is held at nearby Church Lane.

To celebrate the pub will be serving food from 10am to 6pm and a special pre-race brunch, including a full English breakfast and Champagne (£7.50), will be available from 10am until noon. Weather permitting, a bouncy castle will be in the garden.

On March 14, Mothering Sunday, why not celebrate with our special two-course meal (adults £11.95, children £7.95) with sittings at noon, midday, 1.30pm and 6pm.

Later in the year our home-cooked salt-beef sandwiches will be back on the menu

Walnut Tree, Forge Hill, Aldington TN25 7DT Telephone 01233 720298, website www.walnuttree.com

CHEF RECOMMENDS

Martins

Starter: Sweet chilli prawns -Mediterranean prawns drizzled with garlic butter on a bed of spring onions with a warm sweet chilli dip Main course: Rosemary lamb - tender

loins of lamb with rosemary and onion

Dessert: Kentish gypsy tart Telephone: 01227 750304

Red Cow

Starter: King tiger prawns, pan-fried in garlic and sweet chilli served with granary toasted bread.

Main course: Fillet of venison with cracked herb potatoes and seasonal veg-

Dessert: Chocolate, orange and Cointreau torte with cream. Telephone 01304 613243

Carpathian

Here are some examples from our two-course lunch for just £5! Starter: Tomato and mozzarella salad Main: Penne carbonara Telephone 01304 448245

Rose and Crown

Starter: Moules mariniere Main course: Homemade pie of the day with potatoes vegetables and gravy. Dessert: Homemade fruit crumble lots of fruit, lots of crumble with steaming hot custard. Telephone: 01227 709265

George Hotel, Lydd

Starter: Cajun-spiced fishcakes served with a salad garnish and mayonnaise Main course: Apricot chicken with an apricot, white wine and mustard sauce. Dessert: Syrup suet sponge served with

Telephone: 01797 321710

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yourmusic

It's time to audition if you think you can Roc Da Mic





TALENTED singers, rappers, poets and dancers are being urged to enter an X-Factor-style competition.

The Roc Da Mic contest will see the best young hopefuls from across the UK go head-to-head for the title – which comes with a recording contract and a $\pounds 10,000$ cash prize.

Open auditions will be held in London, Sheffield, Belfast, Cardiff and 12 other locations across the country. But before all that, the Roc Da Mic judges

But before all that, the Roc Da Mic judges will head to Maidstone on Sunday, March 28. Competition founder Melissa Bell – mother

Competition founder Melissa Bell – mother of X-Factor winner Alexandra Burke and former lead singer of 80s giants Soul II Soul – said she was hoping for a big turn-out.

"The Maidstone audition will be for the whole of Kent and we're hoping to bring in the crowds and get people performing," she said. "The panel will be made up of industry experts and notable producers. We won't be harsh like they are on the X-Factor, although we'll be honest about people's abilities."

In contrast to the multi-million-pound ITV show, money made from the competition will go to three charities; the British Kidney Patient Association, Marie Curie Cancer Care and the Haiti earthquake appeal.

Ms Bell, who was struck down with kidney failure three years ago, said: "The Kidney Patient Association is a very important charity and helps people in my condition.

"I have to have dialysis every other day and it is debilitating – I can't actually do anything some days.

"I can't find a job because of this and have to rely on benefits, but the charity helps people

BY MARIJKE COX



WINNING TEAM: Roc Da Mic founder Melissa Bell with her daughter, X Factor winner Alexandra Burke, left

who struggle like me, with things like advice and travel – they also help fund holidays for patients."

Hopefuls will have to pay £20 to enter, or £25 for a band, which pays for a tutorial lesson worth £45 and an artist's support pack.

"This is like a mini-bible of tips and links to help people launch a career in the industry," said Ms Bell. "Money made from this will go to the charities and pay for overheads."

The finals of the competition will be held in London later in the year.

"Alex has said she will support us once we're on the road," said Ms Bell.

"She has also said she'll sing at the final and hopefully JLS will be able to perform too."

To register go to www.rocdamic.co.uk, email registration@rocdamic.co.uk for an application form or call the helpline on 0207 607 4986.

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Kent funk quartet Tokyo Jo play their song Mamajam



Singer-songwriter Lucy Kitt performs



TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

1 Craig Sheridan- Times Change (from Deal)2 Craig Sheridan - Winter Sunn (from Deal)3 Gristlefridge - Unbreakable (from Whitstable)

4 The Flack - Forget Me (from Deal)

5 Shelta - We Can Make It (from Bexley)



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Saturday 6th March

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Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street, Broadstairs 01843 861108

Saturday 13th March

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Saturday 20th March

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Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street, Broadstairs 01843 861108

Saturday 20th March

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Friday 26th March

Hazy Shade

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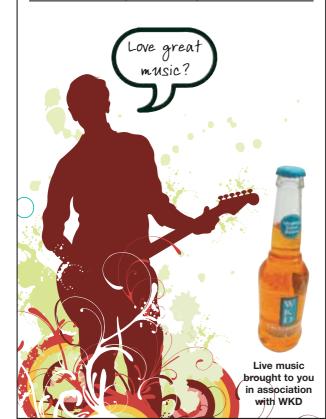
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Saturday 27th March

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yourleisure



Book your spot on that broom

Witch's hunt for her missing possessions could end in disaster as her friends hitch a lift in this family show

ROOM ON THE BROOM

Various dates and venues



YOUNG audiences will be swept away when a magical adventure visits theatres in the county.

Room On The Broom is a colourful and captivating musical production from the people behind The Gruffalo, which has delighted theatregoers of all ages. Now the Tall Stories Theatre Company presents another adaptation of a children's story.

Julia Donaldson's best-selling book, with illustrations by Axel Scheffler, has been transformed into a hit show that was a sell-out success at last year's Edinburgh Festival.

Suitable for children aged three and above, Room On The Broom is a wonderful show for family audiences.

On an ordinary night, a witch and her cat are flying along on their broomstick without a care in the world. But suddenly a mighty wind hits the pair and blows the witch's hat, bow and wand into the night.

Determined to find her lost possessions, they come across some new friends who all hop on to the broomstick for a ride.

With the help of a daft dog, a beautiful bird and a friendly frog, it looks like they will find the witch's missing things. But the broomstick is not built for five – who will save the witch when disaster strikes?

A talented cast brings this magical tale to life, including Karina Garnett, who plays Cat. Having worked with many respected companies such as Glyndebourne Opera, Trestle and the Royal Shakespeare Company, Garnett is a highly experienced per-

former who should give this magical puss the perfect purr.
Sarah Louise Young, who plays

Witch, has many theatre credits and is also an accomplished cabaret per-

She is a member of Showstopper! The Improvised Musical and her third solo show drew much critical acclaim, while her TV credits include Strictly Confidential, Casualty, No Angels, Doctors, Holby City and The

Bird is played by Alex Scott Fairley, whose theatre credits range from The Taming Of The Shrew to Don't Let The Pigeon Drive The Bus!, while Phil Yarrow, who plays Dog, has also

appeared in a vast array of shows. Room On The Broom can be seen at the Central Theatre, Chatham, this Friday and Saturday and at the Orchard Theatre, Dartford, from Thursday to Saturday, March 4-6.



FOR MORE THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENT VISIT yourkenttv.co.uk)

with

JANE CONNOLLY Email jane.connolly@kosmedia.co.uk





THE COMEDY CLUB

Thursday, February 25 Ramada Hotel, Dover



LAUGH away the winter blues as Ramada Dover welcomes a new monthly comedy

The Comedy Club stages its first show at the hotel this week and will return on the last Thursday of every month. Determined to make a big impression at its first event, the club presents three unforgettable come-

Ryan McDonnell has built up a strong reputation in his hometown of Belfast and is now making his mark on the UK comedy circuit. With his Irish charm and sharp wit, he will make an excellent MC for the evening.

Scottish comic Paul Pirie has had a series of sell-out shows at the Glasgow Comedy Festival and took second place in the 2006 Scottish Comedian of the Year Award. Headline act Harvey Oliver (pictured) is a former act who appeared in the film Bugsy Malone and even played a stand-up comedian in Only Fools and Horses.

The show, which is for over-18s only, starts at 9pm and tickets cost £12 or with a two-course meal for £20. To book call 01304 872843, email events@ramadadover.co.uk or visit www.hahaheehee.com.



A YOUNG man explores his memories of life growing up in three different countries in The 14th Tale.

Performed by celebrated spoken word and graphic artist Inua Ellams, the oneman show is currently being staged at the National Theatre and the Gulbenkian is one of just three other venues to host the show. This comic and moving self-portrait is Ellams' first full-length work for the theatre and promises to be a highly entertaining tale.

Set against the backdrop of a hospital waiting room, the show sees Ellams relive his early days in Nigeria and bring to life memories of friends, family and school years.

He then travels to Dublin before arriving in London



and experiencing life as a young, black male in the UK.

Aged just 25, Ellams is already a successful visual artist and poet who has performed at a variety of venues and festivals from the Tate Modern to Glastonbury. In The 14th Tale, he combines comic dialogue with poetry and prose to present this compelling autobiographical

The performance starts at 7.45pm and tickets cost £12/£10/£7. Call the box office on 01227 769075 or go to www.thegulbenkian.co.uk.

AMERICAN

BIG TIME AMERICAN WRESTLING

Friday, March 12 Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone

GET ready to rumble as Big Time American Wrestling prepares to smack-down in Shepway.

For sheer excitement and exhilaration, live wrestling is great live entertainment and All Star Wrestling promises a thrilling night out.

Now in its 11th year, Big Time American Wrestling is a fantastic way to see top talent from American and home shores in action. Ever since World of Sport

hooked television viewers in the 60s and 70s, wrestling has proved a compelling spectacle and some huge characters have emerged. While other promoters have been up against the ropes, All Star has continued to thrive and attract some great Stateside wrestlers as well as British muscle.

Last year more than 250,000 people watched All Star events and this year, the exciting Great Britain versus North America theme is continuing to attract wrestling fans to this nationwide spring tour.

The latest team of World Federation Superstars will do battle with British heroes in this two-hour, actionpacked show.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £12/£10 or £35 for families. To book, phone 0844 847 1776 or visit www.leascliffhall.org.uk.

SHEPWAY LEISURE

Trad and mainstream jazz mix at the Grand

A MIXTURE of traditional and mainstream jazz can be enjoyed at The Grand

in Folkestone on Thursday.

The Andy McClean Band will be in Keppels Music Room at 8.30pm, with Chris Rumsey on saxes, Bill Barnacle on trumpet, Bill Jones on trombone, Bob Pluck on guitar, Clive Fletcher on bass and band leader McClean on drums.

Admission costs £5. For more information call 01303 277175.

Tribute act Ricky will be rocking and rolling

GET ready to rock and roll in the company of 50s and 60s tribute act, Ricky Fontayne.

An evening of nostalgic music is on offer at the Kings Head in High Street, Hythe, from 8.30pm on Friday. For details venue call Nathan on 01303 266283. Find out more about Ricky online at www.rickyfontayne.com.

There'll be plenty of laughs at comedy club

LAUGHTER is on the bill at The Lanterns in Folkestone when the Lonestar Comedy Club returns.

Mark Simmons is compere for this night of hilarity, with newcomer Carly Smallman and headline act Gary Delaney also on the bill.

The show takes place on Saturday and admission costs £9. To book call Ian on 07771 796445 or visit www.lonestargroup.co.uk.

Get your free tickets for Kent Big Day Out

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On Saturday, March 27, more than 100 castles, houses, railways and sporting venues open their doors free. Now in its fourth year, the event offers an even wider choice of attractions.

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The transformation of Sandwich's Secret Garden, Search 'secret'













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ON GENERAL RELEASE

THE LAST STATION (15)



This love story set during the final year of the life of Russian writer Leo Tolstoy (Christopher Plummer) focuses on the terrible strain borne by his wife, Countess Sofya (Helen Mirren).

PONOYO (U)



This is the latest animated masterpiece from Oscar-winning anime legend Hayao Miyazaki, drawing on Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale The Little Mermaid for inspiration.

THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (U)



Walt Disney makes a break with tradition by casting its first-ever African-American princess in this enchanting reworking of the classic Grimm Brothers fairy tale.

Glimpse of heaven too much of a good thing

BY **DAMON SMITH**

THERE is life after death in Peter Jackson's visually-stunning interpretation of the bestseller by Alice Sebold, which proves to be one adaptation too far for the Oscarwinning director of The Lord Of The Rings trilogy and King Kong.

Cutting back and forth between the real world and a colour-saturated heavenly limbo, The Lovely Bones details the efforts of a murdered 14-year-old schoolgirl who helps her grieving father apprehend her killer from beyond the grave.

In doing so, the girl's tortured spirit can attain lasting peace, along with those of the murderer's other victims.

Jackson's screenplay, co-written with wife Fran Walsh and Philippa Boyens, is caught in its own limbo, unable to bridge the narrative divide between the two planes where the story unfolds.

A miasma of computer-generated special effects in the otherworldly sections is distracting and we yearn for a speedy return to the drabness of reality.

Fantasy is vastly overrated.

The story begins with youngster Susie Salmon, played by Saoirse Ronan, on her way home from school in early December 1973.

She is lured to her death by neighbour George Harvey (Stanley Tucci), who dismembers the girl and hides her remains in a castiron safe in his basement.

Detective Len Fenerman and his colleagues never find Susie, just her woollen hat in a cornfield and traces of the girl's blood.

The teenager's father, Jack (Mark



CAMPAIGN: Mark Wahlberg as father Jack Salmon

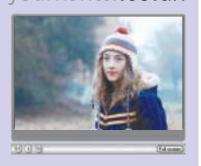
Wahlberg), mother Abigail (Rachel Weisz) and booze-soaked grandmother Lynn (Susan Sarandon) are denied a chance to bury the child.

Jack sacrifices his marriage to embark on a tireless campaign to track down his daughter's killer, but there is no evidence, and the police grow tired of his theories.

Classmate Ruth Conners is touched by Susie's spirit and could perhaps provide that vital link between life and death.

VIEW THIS PREVIEW

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Meanwhile, George watches the Salmons closely from his home across the street, fixating on Susie's younger sister, Lindsey.

"Mr Harvey began to feel a familiar itch," confides the murdered teenager in voiceover. "It had been a long time now."

"It had been a long time now..."

The Lovely Bones is hamstrung by Wahlberg's inability to convey a single genuine emotion. He wrings crocodile tears in vain and tries to make us care about his patriarch's quest for vengeance.

Ironically, the dead have far more life, especially Ronan, who delivers Sebold's words in heart-tugging voiceover: "I would like to tell you that it is beautiful here, that I am, as you will one day be, forever safe... but it's not quite like that."



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AFTER stops in France, Italy, Greece and Turkey, catching glimpses of cities such as Rome, Nice and Naples, and seeing the Pope in St Peter's Square, we often wondered what might happen next on our Mediterranean cruise.

Sailing from Barcelona to the Greek islands on the Brilliance Of The Seas, operated by Royal Caribbean International, we were in for more surprises and beautiful sights.

Two weeks at sea took us to our farthest port, Kusadasi in Turkey, gateway to Ephesus – once the second largest city of the Roman Empire. The town itself was a pleasant place, with happy people, happy shopkeepers and samples of Turkish delight, magnificent carpets, leather goods, gold and diamonds.

Naples is the gateway to the historic gems of Pompeii and Herculaneum, buried by erupting Vesuvius in AD 79. You could also tour

BY **DAVID MASTIN**

Sorrento and the Amalfi coast, or settle for lunch on the isle of Capri.

You pay extra for the trips and some are expensive (£135 for a ten-hour guided tour of Rome), but there are shorter, cheaper trips to from which to choose.

And after a hard day sightseeing, it is comforting to know that you will be soon be back to the comfort of the ship, where food – and more food – awaits.

In Barcelona, the transfer from airport to ship was slick and easy, and the Brilliance Of The Seas offered all we could expect, and more. Some passengers treated themselves to a short break in Barcelona before we sailed.

On board, meal times are as flexible as they can make them. There is fixed-time dining in two sittings in the swish Minstrel Restaurant, where you mostly share a table for ten, or you



can opt for anytime dining by arrangement.

There is also a serve-yourself eating area, the Windjammer, and various snack stations throughout the ship.

In the two speciality restaurants, the Chops Grill boasts 'the best steak on the high seas' while the Portofino serves Italian food. Both charged about £12 extra per person.

All cabins – or staterooms as cruise lines call them – have a TV and a hairdryer, and I could not fault the cabin service.

Food and entertainment – superb shows every night in the Pacific Theatre and various bar combos around the ship – are included in the price, although alcoholic drinks cost extra.

We saw something of so many places in 12 days that would have cost much more going independently, and a cocoon of cruise-ship comfort was a good way of doing it.



- David Mastin was a guest of Royal Caribbean International, which offers 12 nights on Brilliance Of The Seas this summer from £1,372, including flight from Heathrow to Barcelona and transfers. Prices are based on early-May departure.
- August price is £1,398. Package is available until November.
- RCCL reservations: 0844 493 2061 and www.royalcaribbean.co.uk.

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vourtimeout

YOUR TV REVIEW

BY SIMON ROBINSON



MY BIG FAT GYPSY WEDDING

Channel 4, 9pm, Thursday

CARDS on the table - I thought I knew tacky.

Having been born and raised in the fake-gold capital of the South (big shout out to the Chatham massive), I would have put money on my ability to reach the very core of tackiness and the tacky 'look'.

I've seen many more 'gold' clown pendants, scrunchies and big, almost parrot-perchable, hooped earrings in my time than I'd care to.

I've also seen enough 'celebrity' features in women's magazines to gain a complete understanding of what makes someone/something eye-wateringly tacky, common and

unappealing.
Yes, up until last week I would have considered myself an expert on tacky.

But I was wrong. Channel 4's My Big Fat Gypsy Wedding proved that I was a mere tacky rookie and there were deeper levels of gaudiness that I simply never knew existed.

For those of you who missed it, think Jordan's wedding's level of sheer awfulness and times that by 100.

The hour-long show took viewers into the lives of a handful of young gypsy and traveller girls, documenting the run-up to their wedding days.

We were introduced to their families and their fiancés as well as the country's leading traveller wedding dress-maker. For, you see the dress is the biggest concern for a blushing gypsy bride. And when it comes to the dress the maxim of bigger is better has never held truer.

We're talking dresses weighing up to 27 stone that leave permanent scars. To put it into context, that's like wearing two-and-a-half fully-



TACKOMETER: Channel Four's My Big Fat Gypsy Wedding proved quite an eye-opener

grown men up the aisle while they go to town on your hips with a blunt knife. These dresses billow out to such a degree that navigating stairs/corridors/doors and others becomes a team effort requiring military-type planning.

At one point, a young bride was forced to side-step down a spiral staircase like a demented half-Cinderella, half-crab cross-breed

And then there were the awful horse-drawn carriages.

And on to the bridesmaids' dresses. I understand it's accepted that the bride may wish to pick unflattering dresses for her bridesmaids to ensure all eyes are on her, but come now, surely there's some limit?

Despite the weddings reaching unknown levels of tackiness, the women underneath the dresses came across incredibly well.

They were shown to be obedient to their parents, respectful and entirely

devoted to the sanctity of marriage. My Big Fat Gypsy Wedding was sold on its shock factor, but perhaps the underlying message is that the gypsy and traveller community - so often marginalised and dismissed by the majority of the population - has a lot to teach us.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19) AN OLD fear will rear its head. You need to break

free of this phobia. You must admit that you hate being prevented from doing what you like because of panic attacks. An authority figure is doing everything in their power to stop you getting the instruction you need.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Aquarius 09067-531762

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21) A WELL-CONNECTED friend will grant you access to an exclusive organisation. This is a wonderful opportunity to share a fundraising idea. Don't be surprised if you're offered a job. An older colleague is jealous of your success. Beware of leaving confidential information lying around. . To find out more about what the stars have in

store call Russell on Taurus 09067-531753

LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23) YOUR energy and enthusiasm attracts lots of romantic attention. A witty sophisticate could make a pass at you. If you're single, go ahead and take the bait. If not, stay true to your beloved. Your partner is long overdue for a token of your

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Leo 09067-531756

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22) TAKING the helm of an important organisation will give you a chance to flex your artistic muscles. Getting paid to create something beautiful is the next best thing to heaven. This time around, you won't have any annoying adults to tell you to put down your work and go to bed.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Scorpio 09067-531759

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)
A PUBLIC presentation will cause your star to rise. Everybody wants you to be on their team. You'll get several exciting offers this week. Choose the one that affords the most creative freedom. It may pay less than some other jobs, but don't be fooled – you'll be much happier.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Pisces 09067-531763

GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22) GOING on a last-minute trip will put you in contact with some very influential people. Keep your eyes open for a stylish athlete. Your new acquaintance will tip you off to an exciting job opening. Be sure to ask for a letter of recommendation. Arguments

are taking a toll on your nerves.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Gemini 09067-531754

VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23) PROMOTING the interests of a colleague makes you feel virtuous. Although they will probably never know the extent to which you've helped them, that doesn't matter. You just want to be channelling your energy

in a positive direction. Fortunately, a best friend appreciates it. • To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Virgo 09067-531757

SAGITTARIUS (Nov23-Dec21) THIS is a great time to look for a new home or put a deposit on a piece of property.

You'll be able to find a spacious place for a very reasonable sum. The opportunity to teach a class will put you in the path of romance. Someone who admires your ability will ask for a date.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Sanittarius 09067-531760

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)
WORKING behind the scenes yields the best results. You hate compromising your creative vision to a corporate power. If you're able to develop a project in secret, you won't have to alter it very much later. Still, it's important to steer clear of

authority figures. • To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Aries 09067-531752

CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23) YOU need to spend money to make money, so if you're looking for work, invest in a stylish interview suit. You may want to pay an expert to update your CV, too. Going on an overseas trip could be in the cards. This will be a marvellous opportunity to combine business with pleasure. To find out more about what the stars have in

store call Russell on Cancer 09067-531755 LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct23) YOU could find romance while working as part of a team. It's hard to resist someone

who makes you feel glamorous and great. If you're already in a relationship, take this opportunity to plan an outing with friends. Being surrounded friends will create a lovely feeling of intimacy.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Libra 09067-531758

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20) YOUR overbearing attitude is alienating your friends. Although you're worried that a relative is putting themselves in danger, there's nothing you can do to stop them. Instead of bearing down hard, give them space. Showing faith in their judgment

will strengthen your relationship. • To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Capricorn 09067-531761

Calls cost 75p per minute. Service provided by g8wave London N7





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No126

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Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9





4 8 1 2 9 6

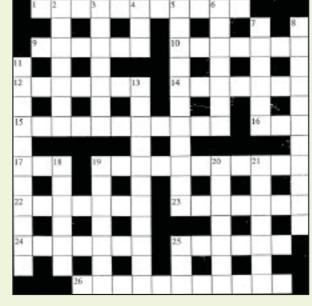
CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Clear shrill sound made at end of this tour (7-4)
- 9 Like a cat's-cradle, hard to explain (6)
- 10 Nobleman laid hog out (7)
- 12 Some in the groups urged strong increase (7)
- 14 Left cockney lady at Caithness town for even more northerly one (7)
- 15 Supposed to have done some magic round city square
- 16 Stool has no sides as well (3)
- 17 Quietly notice writing-paper (3)
- 19 What bloomer could have been made by one in the Twelve? (11)
- 22 Discordant groan by last character with a dress fabric (7)
- 23 Russian physiologist had a meringue dish (7)
- **24** Establish in Iowa perhaps (7)
- 25 Illuminated during daylight hours (6)
- 26 Cheat makes brief alteration (5-6)

- 2 Pass made by youngster involving practical skill (5-2)
- **3** Deliver television for nothing (3,4)
- 4 Unprofessional song? (3)
- **5** Learnerís joint yearly grant (11) **6** Arranged as commanded (7)
- 7 Left during inapt rendering of dirge (6)
- 8 Second person to be aware which item is unspecified, but well-understood (3-4-4)
- 11 Opposite of a dead loss? (5,6)
- 13 Naturally it sticks out at the side of one's face (8,3)
- 18 Get Sid round to break down food (6)
- 19 He bet with an eccentric at a lower level (7)
- $\boldsymbol{20}$ Alan and I, about six, went round for the girl (7)
- **21** Making a low sound when anchoring ship (7)
- 25 Ransacking only part of bag (3)

SCRIBBLE HERE



OUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Fruit from a tropical tree (7,4)
- 9 Garcia (anaq.) (6)
- 10 Lifeís struggle (3,4)
- 12 Untwist (7)
- 14 Promiscuous (7)
- 15 Chiller (4,7)
- 16 Bend (3)
- 17 Knight (3)
- 19 Combination of events (11)
- **22** Plus Mum (anag.) (4,3)
- 23 Bend (7)
- 24 Strong feeling (7)
- **25** Small group (6) 26 Unavoidable (11)

DOWN

- 2 Of plant life (7)
- **3** Of the heart (7)
- 4 GP (collog.) (3)
- 5 Part of the Arabian Sea (7,4)
- 6 Bid (7)
- 7 Capital of Croatia (6)
- 8 Tropical disease (6,5)
- 11 Mercury (11)
- 13 Mounds (11)
- **18** Martinet (6) 19 Pillow (7)
- 20 Break in line of verse (7)
- 21 Odd (7)
- 25 Tea (3)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No125

EASY	,							
5	4	9	1	7	3	2	6	8
3	8	6	9	5	2	1	7	4
7	1	2	6	4	8	9	3	5
9	2	5	3	1	7	8	4	6
6	7	1	8	2	4	3	5	9
4	3	8	5	6	9	7	1	2
2	9	7	4	3	5	6	8	1
1	5	3	2	8	6	4	9	7
8	6	4	7	9	1	5	2	3

MEDIUM

5	4	7	2	8	5	3	1
6	1	9	3	5	8	2	4
3.	8	6	4	1	9	7	5
2	5	8	9	3	1	4	7
1	7	5	6	2	3	9	8
8	9	4	1	7	5	6	2
7	6	3	8	4	2	1	9
_		-	-	-	-	-	-

1 4 3 2 5 9 7 8 6

Answers to all of this week's guizzes can be found on our website

HARD

2	1	4	3	8	5	5	7	9
3	5	6	2	7	9	8	4	1
7	8	9	6	1	4	5	2	3
9	2	8	5	6	1	7.	3	4
6	3	1	7	4	2	9	5	8
4	7	5	8	9	3	1	6	2
8	6	3	1	2	7	4	9	5
5	4	7	9	3	8	2	1	6
1	9	2	4	5	6	3	8	7

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No125

ACROSS: 8 Middle East 6 Aqua 9 Macaw 10 Tube 11 Rand 13 Idle speculation 14 Yearbook 16 Oblige 18 Remedy 19 Washedup 22 Summer residence 24 Rite 25 Judo 26 Axing 27 Ezra 28 Hard-headed. **DOWN**: 1 Mummify 2 Ducal 3 Lowest bidder 4 Entrepot 5 Subdue 7 Qualified 8 Al dente 12 Carbohydrate 15 Alma mater 17 Passw 18 Reserve 20 Pledged 21 Trauma 23 Naiad. **QUICK SOLUTION No126**

Caesura 21 Unusual 25 Cha. Embankments 18 Ramrod 19 Cushion 20 7 Zagreb 8 Yellow fever 11 Quicksilver 13 3 Cardiac 4 Doc 5 Persian Gulf 6 Attempt Caucus 26 Inescapable. DOWN: 2 Vegetal Lump sum 23 Flexure 24 Emotion 25

cabinet 16 Bow 17 Sir 19 Conjuncture 22 Rat race 12 Untwine 14 Immoral 15 Cold ACROSS: 1 Avocado pear 9 Agaric 10

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PROPERTY NEWS



Housing market frozen as snow hits county

THE recent snowfall and icy conditions have affected the mortgage market, putting a hold on many transactions, according to one industry expert.

All aspects of the sector came to a standstill, according to Catherine Hearnden, director of financial advice firm MyMortgageDirect.

"Surveyors weren't able to get properties, people weren't able to view, estate agents were closed, solicitors weren't available," she explained.

Traditionally, warmer weather sees housing activity pick up, with Easter a key time for people to start looking at houses, the mortgage expert continued.

Figures from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors revealed that house prices rose again in January but buyer interest and new instructions to sell fell. Newly-agreed sales fell for the first time in 10 months amid the winter conditions.

Lending shortage puts squeeze on landlords

A TOTAL of 46,000 homes were repossessed in 2009, according to the Council of Mortgage Lenders – a rise of 15 per cent on the previous year and the highest number since 1995.

"Lending continues to be scarce and there seems to be no sign of banks relaxing lending," says David Plaister, managing director of property letting experts LetAssured.

"With the number of repossessions at a 14-year high, the banks' ability to lend is entrenched, and there will continue to be a shortage of funds for landlords in 2010.

"It's a shame that the number of repossessions is causing banks to hold back on lending for good landlords who can afford to borrow.

"Good landlords should to be allowed to grow their portfolios. House prices are ideal so it's a great time to buy, but there's still no finance available."



OT O THE PROPERTY.

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There's room for optimism as the price rise continues

BY NICK AMES

LAST month saw house prices rise for the seventh consecutive time, according to the Halifax House Price Index.

The increase was a moderate 0.6 per cent and takes the average price to 9.9 per cent above its trough in April 2009.

The first weeks of February have also seen increased activity in the market causing optimistic forecasts from analysts about the coming months.

According to the Halifax, the Bank of England's interest rate reductions have boosted housing demand, which, coupled with low supply, pushed up prices.

It suggested that house prices would remain flat during 2010, as more people put their properties up for sale.

Currently, the average house price is £169,777, up £15,287 since April last year, while further property figures from Halifax have revealed that house prices increased by 105 per cent during the past ten years.

The Noughties saw prices go up by more in real terms than in any other decade during the last 50 years.

In the latest survey, the Rightmove House Price Index for February 2010 reveals the largest monthly increase since April 2007 and represents a year-on-year increase of 6.1 per cent.

Sellers appear to be hoping for a prosperous new year, and are asking an average of 3.2 per cent more than last month.

This average rise is surprising, given the difficult UK and global economic picture, say experts.

However property in popular locations, such as Kent, remains in short supply, supporting upwards price pressure.

Miles Shipside, commercial director of Rightmove said: "A price jump of more than



three per cent is more comparable to the precredit-crunch boom-times.

"Sellers are setting their sights higher, and some agents are going along with them in order to win scarce instructions.

"Property for sale remains scarce in popular areas, but new supply to the market has to be priced at what buyers are willing to pay."

Rightmove site traffic is regarded across the market as a good barometer of prospective

buyer intent, with January proving to be a record month.

Pages viewed were up 29 per cent on January 2009, at 710 million.

January and February are the traditional time for bargain hunters to start shopping around, although analysts say with prices recovering there will be fewer bargains to be had this year, and agents and sellers may have to work harder to put a deal together.

Don't let fraudsters steal your home

THE Land Registry has launched a Protect your Property Campaign to help homeowners who are most at risk of fraud.

Via the Central Office of Information's register of 6,500 organisations they will be distributing a Protect your Property leaflet giving information on how people, especially those in vulnerable groups, can protect their most valuable asset.

The leaflet can also be downloaded from the Land Registry website.

Peter Rodd, a Partner at Thanet based Solicitors, Boys & Maughan said: "The Land Registry's campaign provides homeowners with information to help them protect their property.

"If you are mortgage-free, no longer live at your property or are a buy-to-let landlord, you should make sure the Land Registry has your details, so they can contact you when someone makes an enquiry about your property."

Last year an attempted fraud was discovered and prevented by the Land Registry because, among other anti-fraud procedures, the owners of the property that was being "stolen" had kept their address for service up to date.

The couple had paid off the mortgage on a

property they were letting and lived at another address.

Because they lived elsewhere, they'd supplied their home address as well as that of the let property as contact addresses for the Land Registry

Fraudsters impersonating the couple tried to change the named owners on the Land Registry record so they could take over ownership of the let property, but the Land Registry contacted the couple immediately at both addresses and they were able to object to the transfer of ownership and prevent their property from being stolen.

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Shepherdswell £225,000

Two/three bedroom detached bungalow. Conservatory. Double glazing & central heating. Countryside

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New Romney £210,000

End of terrace family house offering four bedrooms plus upstairs bathroom, lounge / diner, sun lounge and laundry room, garage and off road parking. No chain.

01797 363194 New Romney



Dover £115,000

idle first time buy. lounge, fitted kitchen, utility area, downstairs shower room and front and enclosed rear

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Folkestone £135,000

Three bedroom family home. Arranged over three floors with kitchen and dining room, lounge and family bathroom. The property also has a garden to the rear, double glazing and gas central heating

01303 250757 Folkestone Office



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New Romney



Dover £132,500

This three bedroom town house. The property offers the new owners a kitchen, lounge, integral garage and will be fitted with new UPVC double glazing.

01304 207099



Folkestone £349,995

Substantial six bedroom semi detached family home. Four reception rooms. Three bathrooms. Separate w.c. Conservatory. Utility room. Enclosed garden to rear.

Folkestone Office

01303 250757



Dover £230,000

three bedroom detached bungalow in the sought after location of River lounge, dining area, fitted kitchen, conservatory, bathroom w.c, with a lawned front garden,



Lydd £149,995

Extended three bedroom end of terrace family home offering lounge, dining room and study. Master bedroom



Lydd on Sea £190,000

Three bedroom detached bungalow with panoramic views to front and rear. Shower room, sun room, lounge/diner with sea view, garage and off road parking.

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DOVER

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Viewing is recommended of this substantial Victorian town house. The accommodation is arranged over four floors and comprises: entrance hall, reception/bedroom 5, dining room and kitchen on the ground floor, lounge/dining room with original bi-folding doors and with original feature fire place with marble surrounds and bathroom on the upper ground floor with two bedrooms a piece on the remaining two floors.

The property sits on an elevated plot, set back from the road with lawn and path to front door plus an enclosed rear garden.



Folkestone 01303 259211

Offered for sale with no chain! Recently refurbished - internal viewing is highly recommended to appreciate this property located in the West End of Folkestone.

There is also the possibility of purchasing a garage separately.



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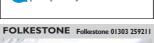
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OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £330,000

Four Bedroom Detached Bungalow is set in the sought after location of

lso includes a Garage. Entrance Hal arge Kitchen/Diner, large Living Roon Litility Room, Study, Bathroom









£172.500

Three bedroom family home. Two reception rooms with fireplaces. Kitchen. Family bathroom. Double glazing and central heating.



Two bedroom terraced house close by to Dover hospital and local amenities, comprising a lounge, and bathroom to the ground floor and two bedrooms.



One bed ground floor apartment block The Gateway. Views of the harbour and ferry port to the front and the Dover Castle on the cliff top to the rear.



Two bedroom lower ground floor flat within close proximity to local amenites and train link to london. Offered for sale with no chain.



Mid terrace, three storey property offered for sale with no chain. Benefits include new wiring, heating system and boiler, bathroom kitchen and decoration throughout.





less b

your estate agent









FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03026

- 2 Bedroom terraced
- Recently refurbished
- 60 FT rear garden



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03160

- 3 bedroom semi-detached
- osp/single garage
- loft room/approx 160ft garden



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03183

- 3 bedroom semi detached
- Garage & driveway
- Large rear garden



FOLKESTONE HFP03182

- 2 bed end of terrace
- Beautifully renovated
- No onward chain



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03028

- Investment opportunity
- No chain5 flats



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- HFP03072
- Quiet Cul-De-Sac location 2 bed detached bungalow
- Garage and parking



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- HFP03123
- 3 bedroom first floor apartment
- Lounge/DinerShower room and bathroom



HFP03070

FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- FTB or investment
- Studio flat No chain



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- 1 bedroom apartment
- Central locationNo onward chain

HFP03148

HFP03050



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP02834

One Bedroom

No Chain

Ground Floor with Parking



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03062

- 2 bedroom house
- Superb renovationNo chain



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03132

- 4 bedroom terrace
- Double fronted GFCH/DG



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- HFP03066 • Two bedroom end of terrace
- GCH/Part double glazed
- Garden



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- 3 bed flat Private garden
- Garage



HFP02465

- **FOLKESTONE OFFICE**
- Three bedroom semi

Purpose built block

Rarely available

Large living spaceNo chain



- FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03111
- Three bedroom semi detached Off street parking



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

2/3 bed terraced

Landscaped garden

- HFP03184 3 bed semi detached house
- South facing rear garden
- Sea views



- **FOLKESTONE OFFICE**
- 4 bedroom detached
- 3 bathrooms Off road parking & garage
- HFP03187





- **FOLKESTONE OFFICE** HFP03073 Extended three bed semi ,DG/OSP
- Close proximity to soon comingFolkestone rail link













Superb condition throughout



FOLKESTONE OFFICE Large lounge/diner

Good size garden

Very quiet location

HFP03169



3 bedroom terrace Allocated parking

Rear garden



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Superb 4 bedroom link detached



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HFP03147

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2580

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FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03181

- Two bed mid terrace
- Lounge/Diner
- DG and GCH



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03117

- 2 bedroom terraced
- Recently renovated
- No chain



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03097

- 4 bedroom semi-detached
- Good sized rear garden
- No chain



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP02909

- One bedroom apartment
- Newly built
- No chain



HFP03158 **FOLKESTONE OFFICE**

- 2 bedroom terrace
- Fully renovated
- No chain



HFP03141 FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- Currently a 4 bedroom house
- Planning permission to extendPotential investment!



FOLKESTONE

- HFP03176
- 4 bed semi detached house
- GarageApprox 55ft rear garden



- 4 Bedroom terraced Superb decorative order
- Large rooms



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

HFP03039

HFP03149



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FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- HFP02990 Superb three bedroom house
- 2 bathrooms
- Garage and no chain



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03138

- 9 3 bed semi detached
- Needs modernisation
- Front and rear gardens



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- 3 bedroom terraced
- High spec renovationRoof terrace/No chain



- FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03171 23ft lounge/diner
- 3 bedrooms
- Quiet cul-de-sac location, no chain



FOLKESTONE OIEO £124,950

- NO CHAIN
- 1/2 bed apartment Private garden
- **FOLKESTONE OFFICE** HFP03156



HFP03089

- **FOLKESTONE OFFICE** 3 bedroom apartment
- Sea views and no chain
- Fully renovated



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03162

- Six flats in the heart of the town,
- Studio-2 bed, Newly renovatedOff road parking/DG/GCH



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03179

- 2 bed mid terraced house
- Fully D/G and GCH
- Courtyard garden

FOLKESTONE OFFICE

3 bedroom terraced house



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP02930

- Three bedroom semi
- Conservatory

FOLKESTONE

Garage and driveway

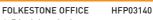












- 5 bed detached
- 3 reception rooms







£124.995

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3 bed detached bungalow

OSP & single garage

No chain

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Nonnington

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Two bedroom semi detached double fronted bungalow in village location. Open plan living/dining room. contemporary styled kitchen, block paved driveway, approx 58' rear garden with summerhouse.



Immaculately presented 2 bedroom apartment within an attractive conversion, conservation area, parking, vaulted ceiling, boasting views, bathroom and additional WC, no onward chain, viewing a must.



Eastry £315.000 Detached home, four bedrooms, living room, dining room kitchen, gardens, parking, en-suite, triple aspects, private



Sandwich

£359,950

£169.995

Immaculately presented four bedroom detached 1920's home in much sought after location, en-suite, family bathroom, extended kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, ground floor landing WC, living/dining room, gas fired central heating and double glazing, parking.



Sandwich

Tilmanstone

Three double bedroom,

£295,000

Grade II listed period home, Grade II listed period home, spacious accommodation, period features, situated within the heart of Sandwich Conservation area, cellar, double bedrooms, courtyard gardens, must be viewed



Deal £160,000

Two bedroom second floor apartment on Deal seafront with Sea views, living/dining room, kitchen, and bathroom. To the rear of the apartment there are distant views of the golf course. Central heating, double glazing. Call now to view



Walmer

£245.000 Offers invited

Detached, two bedrooms, 140' rear garden, conservatory, fitted kitchen, living room, dining room, GFCH and DG, block paved driveway, no chain, very well presented.





semi detached house in cul de sac locati ception rooms, 1st floor family bathroom, GFCH, DG ORP and Garage, front and rear gardens



Sandwich £499,500

Impressive Georgian residence, centrally located, period features inc wood panelling, cornicing, fireplaces, exposed floorboards, self contained annex, spacious rooms, 5 beds, overlooking the river stour, lawned garden, en suite.



overlooks paddock to rear, UPVC double glazing and GFCH, front and rear gardens, spacious accommodation.

study, bathroom, kitchen/dining room, village location, off road parking

Sandwich £229.500

Detached Victorian 3 bedroom property, approximately 100ft rear garden, spacious accommodation, fitted kitchen, living/dining room, GF bathroom, FFL WC, ORP, DG & GFCH.



Extended three bedroom semi situated on a corner plot. living room, dining room, kitchen, ground floor shower room with WC, gardens to front, side and rear, potential for off road parking, offered with no onward chain!



4/5 bedroom medieval home situated within sandwich conservation area. Living room, dining room, kitchen, mlt rear garden. En-suite facilities, no onward chain. Inglenook fireplace to living room, exposed ceiling beams.



Sandwich £215.000 Three bedroom home situated within the heart of the conservation area of Sandwich Walled courtvard garden garage, living/dining room, kitchen, gfl WC, first floor bathroom. Well presented. Call now to view.

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Greatstone | Price Range: £230,000 - £250,000

- Versatile 4 bedroom family ho
- 3 receptions, large garden
- convenient location

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Greatstone | £239,950

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- Three bed, kitchen/diner, garage and gardens
- Double glazing, central heating, conservatory
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Lydd On Sea I Price Range: £170,000 - £190,000

- 3 bedroom home just off The Seafront
- No Chain fitted kitchen,
- · central heating

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- Two Bed Terrace House
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Folkestone | Price: £95,000

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- No Onward Chain
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Streamside Location



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- 1600s Built Detached Cottag ■ Wonderfully Refurbished Within

Enquire West Malling

£480,000-£520,000







- Wonderful 3 Bed Home
- Secure Gated Complex naculate Interior Condition

£240,000-£260,000



- 3 Bedroom End Of Terrace
- 50ft Rear Garden

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- 4 Bed Detached Period Home
- Approximately 1/2 Acre Grounds

£575,000



- 2 Bed End of Terrace Home
- Approximately 60ft Rear Garde Vacant Possession

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£159.950

Harrietsham



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- No Chain Sale

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- Town Centre Location

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£309,000

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FAMILY ORIENTATED Fastbourn

based woman, 39, 5ft8, slim/medium build. I'm a single mum, and enjoy

cooking, music, family life. If you like the same, get in touch! Box 464034

AN AFRICAN DIAMOND 38vr old African girl, likes cooking, going out, watching films and dancing, seeking a loving and caring boy for companionship and more. Box 446676 •

DON'T LET ME DOWN Pretty,

black female, 38, 5ft4, like football

socialising and cooking, looking for a

loving and caring male, 38-42, for a LTR. Box 446684 **①**

SHOW ME HEAVEN Black lady

maybe romance. Box 441608 1

QUICK, EASY WAY

TO VIEW @HOTOS!

Just enter the six-digit Box number, followed by a space, then PHOTO and send to 82250

WOMEN seeking men

MATCH OF THE DAY! Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494 1

likes walks, swimming, vgsoh, like to meet a man, 30-55 for lots of fun. Brighton. Box 463984 •

FANCY A CUDDLE? Loving single mum, 29, shoulder length black hair, brown eyes, 5ft3, slim and sexy, part-time carer, looking for reliable, loving male. Canterbury. Box 464326 •

IS ANYONE OUT THERE? 31yr old easygoing, independent female, WLTM cuddly fella to enjoy the finer things in life with, leading to LTR with the right person. Box 879931 • •

COULD I BE THE ONE? Single mum, 33, divorced, looking to meet a male who enjoys walks, going out, time in and out and much more. Maidstone, Box 464835

Maidstone. Box 464839
HORSES FOR COURSES...
Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship.
Box 384013

mum of four, 38, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship, possibly romance. Box 897983 EASY TO LOVE Lovely African female, 39, 5ft4, likes football, socialising, cinema, and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male for a LTR.

Ashford. Box 460968 FREE AD placement, call: 0808 156 5339

COLLECT your messages: 0906 550 4335

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL Good looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5ft10, likes bowling, eating in/out etc, looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with gsoh for friendship/relationship. Box gsoh for frie 450348 **①**

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS
Laid-back single mum, very bubbly,
outgoing and intelligent, 43, enjoys
social life, drinks, meals, cinema; looking to start afresh with someone new,
easygoing and life-loving. Box 446102

SWEET AS HONEY Petite, slim, honey-blonde lady, 5'4" age 44, enjoys the seaside and horse-racing, looking for a dark-haired, genuine, honest and professional man, 25-50 in Brighton. Box 458465 •

In Brighton. Box 458465 U
HOW YOU DOING? Attractive, curry single mum, 44, kind, genuine, loyal and loving, seeking a man with similar qualities to share my life with. St Leonards-on-Sea Box 459128 1 St Leonards-on-Sea Box 459128 ©
STAY TRUE Attractive, curry, single
mum, size 18, 44, kind, genuine, 55°,
loyal, loving, seeking a man with simiarqualities to share my life with. St
Leonards-on-Sea Box 461830 ©
NEW TO THIS Attractive single
mum of 2, 43yrs old, 5ft1, medium
build, SSOH, likes cooking, spending
time with family & animals. WLTM fun
loving, kind, operuine man. Kent. Box
855182 ©

GENUINE REPLIES ONLY Bubbly

female, 44, brunette, n/s, medium/large build, enjoys singing and theatre. Would love to meet a decent fun-loving guy, similar age, pref non-smoker for LTR. Box 445955

MUST MAKE ME LAUGH!! Young

MUST MAKE ME LAUGHI! Young mid 40's female, looking to meet a genuine single male for friendship and eventual long term relationship. Rochester. Box 855449 @ NOTHING VENTURED... Humble lady, 47, GSOH, down to earth, nonsmoker, enjoys life, likes meals and days out, seeks a life-loving guy to enjoy a meal with. Rochester. Box 466286 @ TAME IT EASY Maidstops famale.

TAKE IT EASY Maidstone female, 47, looking for someone just for initial company and friendship. Many interests including gardening, cooking and shopping. Box 464973 • young-looking, slender woman, 49, dark-haired seeks reliable gentleman, 25-49 for a loving relationship. Rochester. Box 460686

Rochester. Box 460686 NORMAL GAL Female, 48, divorced, and happy,5ft 7, looking for genuine man, laughter,sincerity, smart, kind, tall honest man, age under 49 and over 30 is a must. Maidstone. Box 866380 Nox 866380 Nox 866380 Nox 866380 Looking for a man for friendship, and the supply of the supply

ing for decent, genuine man. I'm attractive, and very loving so go on, give me a try! I like cooking and family life. Box 862888
JUST IMAGINE Petite, brunette,

bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTM gen-uine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562 **⊕** HERE AND NOW Outgoing lady, 50, enjoys walks along the beach, nights out and in with a quiet bottle of wine, seeks man to love forever. Box

449524 LOVELY BUBBLY Short 51yr old professional lady, likes history, films and reading, seeking a genuine gent, 45-58, with gsoh to enjoy evenings out, stimulating conversations and fun. Box 452311 **①**

TT COULD BE US Happy-go-lucky lady, 53, 5ft3, slim, blonde-brown hair, blue eyes looking for a tall, honest guy, for love and laughter and happy times. South Kent. Box 464601

■

Looking for someone who enjoys the simple things in life; wind and rain in my face, 53, red hair, warm holidays love mowing the lawn. Box 860558 **①**

relationship. Box 448863 **① ②**

Text KOS to 81188

Charges: 35p each message you send. Forwarded messages and requested matches: 75p incl VAT.



REPLY to an ad, call:

REPLY by Gext

WALKS ALONG THE COAST Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622

■ MUSIC TO MY EARS Hi my capacity Christing 50, 15% along build.

ship. Box 441622 @
MUSIC TO MY EARS Hi my
name's Christine, 59, 59", slim build,
wear glasses, likes live music, theatre, playing darts, looking for slim
build male, for friendship, possible
more. Box 419914 @
BE YOURSELF Outgoing lady,
active, 60, tolerant, open-minded,
loves life animals, and genuine peole, seeks a sincere man for
romance. Margate. Box 865760 @
PISCES OR CAPRICORN Starstruck lady, 59, 5ft3, medium build,
blonde, blue eyes, likes swimming,
holidays, the sea; WLTM tall man with
good heart for loves. Box 446240 @
LOTS OF HUGS Positive woman,
60, independent but sociable, I'm
5ft4, red hair/green eyes, sim build.
Hythe, enjoys art and walks, seeking
similar, infelligent man, lively, reliable.
Box 464002 @
SIMPLE PLEASURES Hi there,
I'm a 61yr old lady, blonde hair/green

I'm a 61yr old lady, blonde hair/greer eyes, medium build. I love dancing, walking by the sea and WLTM like

minded gent. Box 459467
BRIGHTENING UP Cuddly lady,

BHIGHTENING UP Cuddly lady, 61, 5fts, blonde, likes swimming, country pubs, cinema and much more. WLTM tallish single man to hopefully brighten each others lives. Box 870214 SHOW YOU CARE Early 60's lady, E''s learner with the sure like offse feet and the sure like offse feet

SHOW YOU CARE Early 60's lady. 52", blonds, blue eyes, likes aflory. 52", llonds, blue eyes, likes aflory. 52", llonds, blue eyes, likes aflory. 10 high grown scholing gent in bluring non-smoking gent in the Brighton area. Box 466036 © SAY YESI Brighton lass, 61, 5f2, blonds, blue eyes, separated, likes going for drinks and socialising, 60's music and going to the theatre. Looking for a like-minded gent. Box 466107 © ONLY LOVE Classy, intelligent, happy, slim, attractive, fit and active lady, 60, gsoh, enjoys travel, gardening etc. Looking for that special friend to share life with. Box 883791 © Q AYLESFORD ROMANCE Him N

AYLESFORD ROMANCE Hi my name's Mary, 62, looking for friend-ship with a kind, honest man. I like walking, meals out and holidays...ho

walking, meals out and holidays...how about we have a coffee? Box 866080 **⊕**

866080 **O**LOVE ME DO Loving and caring lady, 63, 5ft3, brown hairleyes, likes most things in life, looking for a caring and considerate male for firendship, hopefully a LTR...Margate. Box 460082 **O**SOMEBODY TO LAUGH

WITH... Loving lady looking for com-

SUMEBUDY TO LAUGH
WITH... Loving lady looking for companionship, 63, 5ft3, medium build,
brown hairfeyes, loves dancing, walks
and animals; seeks similar male with
great SOH for lasting happiness. Box
446382

→

great SOH for lasting happiness. Box 446382
FIGHTING FIT? Very young 64 year old lady, loves socialising, walks music, dogs; seeks intelligent, unpretentious ex-forces/fireman male? For anti-processing and processing processing and processing processi

committed relationship. Les please leave contact number. Box 462717

Whistable. Box 464494

TAKE A CHANCE Honest female, 43, 5t2, medium build, fun-loving, likes clubs, pubs, eating out, nights in, looking for a female for friendship to start, hopefully a LTR. Rochester Box 466078

■

GIRL TO GIRL Looking for a female to have some fun with. I'm a 47yr old woman, brown hair/blue eyes, medium build, GSOH and I'm friendly. Margate area. Box 859781

seeking women TRUE ROMANCE Fun loving lady, honest, sincere and trust-worthy, 41yrs old and looking for fun, maybe romance with an honest, sincere woman. I like nights in/out etc. Whitstable. Box 464494 •

0905 211 0651

MEN seeking women

WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET Single dad, 34, 5f7, brown hair/dark eyes. Hoping to meet a nice woman. I'm laid back and wear my heart on my sleeve. Chatham. Box 464419 ①

464419 **T BOTTLE OF WINE** Hi there, I'm an easygoing male, 35, 5ft9, medium build, brown hair. I'm based in Brighton and enjoy seeing friends, drinks, cinema, walks. Box 450165

DOWN BY THE BEACH Hi I'm Kevin, 37, 6ft1, medium build, loves cinema, music, walks and the sea, seeking similar girl to find love with. Box 449844 ① ②

MAKE ME SMILE AGAIN

MAKE ME SMILE AGAIN
Seeking genuine lady. I'm a 38yr old
male, 5ff9, dark hair/blue eyes. I work
hard and play hard, would like to
enjoy spare time with partner. Box
449649

THE GOOD LIFE Young looking
male 39 quiet usy looking
male 39 quiet usy looking

male, 39, quiet guy, looking for a LTR, want to relax and enjoy life together, with the right woman. Box 858113 **Q**BURSTING WITH LOVE Shy 39

BURSTING WITH LOVE Shy 39

year old man, caring with big heart, looking for that someone to share my life with, into sport, films and having fun. Margate. Box 859647

MAKE ME LAUGH Hard working

tor relationship. Maidstone. Box 464266 ©
FISHING & CAMPING! Fun-loving male, 40, not of many words,
likes sports, music, reading and films,
seeks company and companion.
Snodland. Box 465333 ©
SHY AT FIRST Caring loving and
genuine guy, hard working and shy at
times. Im 40, slim build. Stift, 0, blue
eyes, short hair, seeking genuine lady
in Kent. Box 465529 ©
FORECAST? 38yr old male with
brown hair, big smile, big heart, and
big personality seeks caring and
affectionate lady for love in all weather! Box 434270 © ©
MAKE YOUR MARK HI I'M Mark,
40, 5ftb, brown hair and eyes, fit, not

40, 5ft8, brown hair and eyes, fit, not ugly, mature, honest, WLTM someone trustworthy and caring. Box

484372 0 TO ENJOY LIFE HI I'm Mark, 40, 518, brown hair and eyes, fit, not ugly, mature, honest, WLTM someone trustworthy and carring to settle down with. Box 448377 0 LOOKING FOR A BIRDIE! HI there, I'm Chris, 38 lin good shape, attractive, own place, hard working and honest loves dave ruit notif

autractive, own place, nard working and honest, loves days out, golf, summer! Looking for loving companion. Box 450317 **⊕**ETERNAL FLAME Nick, 41, 6ft,

ETERNAL FLAME Nick, 41, 6tr, slim, dark hair/blue yees, likes cinema, country pubs and socialising with friends, looking for a kind, carring and considerate female, 35-45. Box 450339 **©**LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR

Underlied the proper priced pages 47.

LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR
Outgoing, young-minded male, 47,
smoker, likes war games, books, cinema, castles, places of interest, seeking similar woman to boogle on the
dancefloor with. Margate. Box
443750

BIG ATTRACTIVE GUY
BIIG ATTRACTIVE GUY
Gillingham male, 43, 6ft2, blue eyes,
dark hair, confident, relaxed,
divorced, two grown-up kids, a chef,
works hard, loves soul music, seeks
soulmate! Box 465158

SIMILAR? LOOKING FOR
LOVE? Sim Kent man, 44, dark hair
and eyes, loves music, swims and
walks, looking for lady to take me as I
am. Box 451474

ROMANTIC TYPE Caring, romantic and loyal gent, 45yrs young, 5ft11,
slim build, blue eyes/brown hair. I like
walks, moking, ammals and pusiks, lastings/ Bexhill@astbourne areas.

BROWSE and listen line: 0906 753 3093

HELP required with service? 0871 220 9205

ALONG THE SHORE Romantic male, dark hair, blue eyes, 5'6", caring and loving, likes cooking holidays, the countryside, bowling, cinema, seeking a similar lady 34-56. Ashford. Box 465817 **⊕**

A WOMAN OF SUBSTANCE! Single guy looking for love, 45, dark hair, blue eyes, 5ft6, medium build, very caring and loving, likes holidays and theatre, seeks loving lady.

Ashford. Box 466131

TO BUILD A RELATIONSHIP

Hard-working, true gent, 44, reliable, trusting, loving, genuine, enjoys sports, cars, socialising, music, films, seeks oriental or black love of his life. Box 451917 1

Box 451917 **①**HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU

SOON Athletic male, 43, 6ft, brown hair, hazel eyes, enjoy all the fine things in life, WLTM a caring and loving lemale for a LTR. Box 444794 **①**TRY ANYTHING ONCE Tall chap, 44 medium build Interests: welking 44, medium build. Interests: walking, reading, swimming. I would love to meet a nice, honest and caring lady. Box 444566 • •

BIG DEAL IN DEAL Warm, tactile male, 45, 6ft, likes socialising, pubs, clubs, cosy nights in, seeks like minded female, for friendship, leading to more. Box 388967

more. Box 389967
WITTY Active, adventurous, articulate male, 43, own home/car, enjoys shopping, good food, country walks, music, most things, seeks homely, warm, trusting female. Box 408508
TAKE MY BREATH AWAY!

Loving single dad, 45, loves his pubs and clubs and running, keeping fit, slim, medium height, seeks similar for mutual fun and companionship... Box 450185 ①

ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS Single guy, 47, 5ft8, been hurt in the passed, works full time, looking for a Sussex based lady to share life with. Kids not problem. Box 466082 Rids not problem. Box 466082
GAINING CONFIDENCE 47yr old chap, Brighton based, have my own company and I enjoy most things in life. Seeks a fresh start with a genuine local lady. Box 463623

TAKE MY HAND Genuie, honest and 71 likes definer out wellking.

TAKE MY HAND Genuine, honest man, 47, likes dining out, walking, looking to share the good life with a woman, 35-50. Deal, Kent. Box 460441

▼YOUNG AT HEART Sincere genuine man, 47, but looks younger, 5fi6, cropped hair, blue eyes, single, likes cycling nights in/out, seeks younger female for fun, triendship, ltr. Margate. Dox 857708

Margate.. Box 867/08 😈 🔾

GET BACK TO ME Good looking divorced man, 48, 6ft, likes keeping in shape, loves music and gigs; seeking slim lady, 30-40, relaxed, laid-back, for hopeful good relationship. Hythe. Box 460338

THE START OF SOMETHING LASTING? Hi I'm 48, hard working, live Eastbourne, seeking female for friendship and companionship and seeing what might happen! Box 447693 **①**THE ROMANTIC KIND Easy-

going professional 50yr old man, look-ing for a woman for friendship, maybe more, enjoys most thing in life, espe-cially holidays abroad and romantic dinners. Box 452860 1

LET'S SEE WHERE IT GOES...
Gentle kind male, 48, 5ft9, medium build, WLTM nice, attractive, friendly, fun to be with lady who likes going out and socialising, for friendship first. Box 442869 **●** MAYBE BABY Kind intelligent man,

52, 5ft7, average build, grey-green eyes, enjoys reading, walks and meeting people, WLTM similar attributed lady for friendship, maybe more? Folkestone. Box 465867

■

QUIET LIFE Seeking female com-pany, enjoys films, walking, popping down the rugby club, quiet drinks etc. I'm male, 52, 6t tall, fair hair/blue eyes. Box 446278 Q ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD

Intelligent good-humoured man, 53, 5ft10, nice looking, loves history, countryside/ nature, animals, theatre, music, meals and most things, seeks

KIUW. BOX 490/23 W
LOOKING FOR SOMEONE SPE-CIAL Ashford man, 54, brown hair/blue eyes, 5fl4, divorced-grown up daughter, enjoy walking, days in/out, quiet drink and football, looking for an educated female, 40-60. Box 465231 W

465231 HAND Easygoing man, 57, would like to meet someone to share good and bad times, finding that special person to be with soul mates Box 861243

mates Lox 861243
NICE TO MEET YOU Tall, slim, non-smoking male, Kent area. I'm 58, and enjoy playing the piano, walking, eating out. WLTM nice, non-smoking lady with similar interests. Box 446794
OVE MET 100 PM 100 PM

LOVE ME, LOVE MY TROLLEY Tall, dark, divorced male, 59, likes most music/dining out/cinema, seek-ing female to share my Tesco trolley for friendship, hopefully more...Collette, please call again...leave contact details! Box 444251

MY FAIR LADY Affectionate, fit male, 67, 5ft9, GSOH, home/car, enjoys dancing and theatre, WLTM nice lady, to enjoy life with. Box

442946 **⊕ QUICK-STEPS TO LOVE** Hello **UICK-STEPS TO LOVE** Hello
I'm 67, 5ft9, affectionate, fit, love
dancing (no expert thoughl), theatre,
art, music, seeking fair caring lady
with GSOH, perhaps to dance with?
Box 440237 **⊕**

seeking men

seeking men
100% GENUINE Straight
acting/looking guy, 31, down to earth,
blond hair/blue eyes, toned, likes
music, films, going out, looking for a
nice guy for a meaningful relationship Ashirotd. Box 484617

MAKE THE MOST OF LIFE
Genuine male, 35, 61t1, fair hair, blue
eyes, toned body feminine, looking to
meet an attractive guy for fur times
and friendship. Box 861162

TALL ORDER 40Vr old chap. 5f8.

TALL ORDER 40yr old chap, 5ft8, dark, slim/muscular build, good looking, looking for a tall guy for fun. Box 439132 ①

439132 **◆**DON'T HESITATE! Seeking downto-earth guy for fun and friendship. I'm
a 42yr old guy living in Sheerness.
Box 459219 **◆**

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ANOTHER CHAPTER Hard work

ANOTHER CHAPTER HARD WORK-ing PA, 43, single mum, grey-green-blue eyes, loves socialising and enjoy-ing life, seeks loyal, honest male to find love with. Sittingbourne. Box 461037 •

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MOTORS NEWS



Jaguar leaping ahead after its 75th birthday

JAGUAR is celebrating 75 years and a return to the roaring form of its 1960s heyday – the big cat launches an all-new XJ flagship (pictured) soon.

This will epitomise escape from an automotive Groundhog Day of continually attempting to recreate the styling of those Beatles era icons.

Sir William Lyons founded Swallow Sidecars in 1922, but re-named it Jaguar in 1935, to launch the much grander SS 100 sports car, following up with icons like the D and E-Types and original XJ saloon.



Juke is no boring box

NISSAN has evolved rapidly from being the 'boring' car brand to the 'bonkers' one.

The Japanese marque now has an array of eye-catchers from the popular Qashqai crossover, through the intriguing Cube city car/MPV to the GT-R affordable supercar.

But even these are upstaged by a new supermini crossover, the Juke – to be built at Nissan Sunderland.

It should provoke much discussion before arriving in October through its bug-eyed funky chunky styling, designed to appeal particularly to the 'bloke market' in an increasingly effete sector.



A 'Lion king' in waiting

PEUGEOT launches its stunning new RCZ sports car in May, but it has already won an international internet poll – 'most beautiful car of 2009'.

A dream car at a near everyday price, the French lion brand will sell it here for $\pounds 20,450$ and undercut cheapest versions of the rival Audi TT by some $\pounds 6,000$ while offering more standard kit.

The sumptuous interior of last year's 308CC also suggests Peugeot has the handle on the cabin quality needed to complement the RCZ's stunning looks.



MARQUE OF RESPECT: Hyundai have given their Santa Fe a facelift for 2010, and made it even better value than previous versions with only diesel options starting at £21,495

Hyundai's Santa Fe now proud to wear its badge

LAST time I drove Hyundai's Santa Fe, I suggested chucking the badges away.

Most people would then think it cost twice the price, guaranteeing entry to the poshest social gathering.

Things have moved on though: a spectacular economic crash has made most people less badge-conscious and the Korean brand is now seen as offering more than value-for-money and a standard five-year warranty.

After hearing quibbles about the 2006-vin-

After hearing quibbles about the 2006-vintage Santa Fe, Hyundai has also incorporated remedies into a tidy 2010 facelift.

It is even better value than before too; a simplified range starts from a bargain £21,495 and the thirsty petrol option has been dropped.

A much reduced premium of £750 buys you an extra pair of seats to add seven-seat MPV status to the Santa Fe's decent 4x4 prowess, plus self-levelling rear suspension and rear privacy glass as standard.

And if the cleaned-up exterior and big trapezoidal exhausts threatens posh rivals then the new look interior will worry them even more. Plasticky wood trim is replaced by more

ROAD TEST HYUNDAI SANTA FE

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	****
Image	****
Space	****
Value	****
Running costs	****
Reliability	****
Green rating	****

contemporary 'carbon black' and everything feels robust and of decent quality, with many stowage places. Standard kit includes reversing sensors, air con and a sound system with aux/USB connection and full iPod control.

Unfortunately, the indicator stalk is mounted to the right – unlike most of the marque's other models – but this is a small minus against the big plus from a new all-aluminium 194bhp 2.2-litre diesel in this revised car.

Even with the slightly deadening effect of the six-speed auto 'box on the test car (Premium trim five-seat auto £24,745), the Santa Fe feels lively for its size, hitting 62mph in 10.2 seconds while averaging nearly 40mpg – 41.5mpg in manual format.

Electronic stability control (ESP) is standard and handling is impressive; the car's height is not accompanied by unacceptable leaning on bends or, at the other extreme, a hard ride. Of course, it is more 'soft' than off-roader, but

Of course, it is more 'soft' than off-roader, but the Santa Fe should tackle rough ground well; it runs mostly in two-wheel drive but switches extra traction to rear wheels when a loss of grip is sensed. If you are really mired though, full four-wheel drive can be selected by a switch on the dash.



Adamsons of Deal and Dover.



The new Superb Estate. In the show room NOW Bigger. Better. Happier.

With a class leading 1,865 litres of boot space, colour touch screen satellite navigation, bluetooth, and full leather upholstery as standard*, no wonder it was voted Top Gear's Luxury Car of the Year 2009. Starting from £17,715 RRP.

What Car? magazine has given the new Superb Estate an excellent write-up in its first review, calling the car "big, comfortable, plush and fine value".

The magazine was particularly impressed by the value-for-money offered by the Superb Estate, saying it's, "cracking value and undercuts the equivalent Mondeo Estate by thousands.



Octavia, Fabia + Roomster Happy Scrapping.

No VAT. Ends soon. Don't miss out.

We've reduced the prices of all Fabia and Octavia until 31st March 2010 which means it's like not having to pay the VAT. That's a saving of up to €2,110.43[†] on a Fabia and €3.388.30[†] on an Octavia.



Time is running out to get up to £3,500* off a new Škoda.

Skoda Octavia 2.0 TDI PD Elegance DSG 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Flamenco Red Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 34,596 miles. £8,995

Skoda Octavia 1.9 TDI PD Classic 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Brilliant Silver Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 46,500 miles, £8,995

Skoda Octavia 1.9 TDI PD Classic DSG 5-Dr HatchbackFinished in Brilliant Silver Metallic with a Silver Cloth interior, 25,669 miles. £8,495

SEAT Toledo 1.9 TDI PD Stylance 5-Door Hatchback Finished in Nayara Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 20,695 miles. £8,495

Skoda Fabia 2 1.4 TDI PD (80 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback

Skoda Fabia 1 9 TD vRS 5-Dr Hatchback Finished in Black Magic Metallic with a Grey Sports Cross-tuck interior, 42,000 miles. £7,995

Skoda Roomster 1.4 16v 3 5-Dr MPV

Finished in Corrida Red with a Ivory Cloth interior, 42,100 miles. £7,995

Peugeot 307 CC 2.0 16V 180 Finished in Silver Metallic with a Black Leather interior, 32,747 miles. £7,795

Skoda Fabia 1 1 2 HTP 6V (60 RHP) 5-Dr Hatchback

Vauxhall Astra 1.6 Club 16v 5-Door Hatchback

Finished in Silver Lightning Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 33,364 miles. £6.995

Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback Finished in Beige Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 25,400 miles. £6,795

Skoda Fabia 1.2 HTP Ambiente 5-Dr Hatchback Finished in Red Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 3,500 miles. £6,495

SEAT Albambra 1 9 TDI PD SE (130 RHP) 5-Door MPV

Finished in Pearl Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 92,500 miles. £6,295

SEAT Ibiza 1.2 12v Reference Sport 3-Door Hatchback

Finished in Black Magic Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 40,055 miles. £6,295

Vauxhall Astra 1.8 2-Door Convertible Finished in Moonland Metallic with a Black Leather interior, 41,000 miles. £5,795

Vauxhall Corsa 1 & 16V Design 5-Door Hatchback

Suzuki Wagon R 1.3 Special 5-Door Hatchback

Finished in Adriatic Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 13,200 miles, £4,995

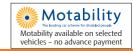
Citroen C3 Pluriel 1.6 2-Door Cabriolet Finished in Artic Steel Metallic with a Grey Cloth - Velour interior, 86,467 miles. £4,495

Suzuki Wagon R 1.3 GL 75 BHP 5-Door Hatchback Finished in Bright Red with a Black Cloth interior, 39,350 miles. £3,995

Finished in Mambo Yellow with a Grey Cloth interior, 52,474 miles, £3,795

Fiat Punto 1.4 Eleganza 3-Door Hatchback Finished in Scilla Red Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 52,364 miles. £3,795

Taxi plan available – from the manufacturer of happy drivers





Adamsons of Deal and Dover 137a Dover Road, Walmer, Deal, Kent A family run business serving the area since 1975 www.adamsons-skoda.co.uk

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47

USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

VALUE SUPERMINIS

carsferkent.co.uk

SUPERMINIS are the 'go to' sector for new and used car buyers as the recession forces us all to review our motoring budget. Are there any bargains to be had though, as values continue to rise? Well, there is not much in it, but here are three cars that might fit the bill, being reasonably priced and reliable too – you don't want to save money on a purchase only to have the gains wiped out by more expensive maintenance. They all do their job as small, but roomy all-rounders too...

SKODA FABIA



BADGE snobs have had Skoda jibes stuffed down their throats as the Czech brand continues to score in customer satisfaction surveys – its cars are cheap to repair too. The sweet handling Fabia comes only in five-door hatch and ugly estate formats, but there is plenty of other choice on engine and trim – there is even an impressive diesel vRS hot hatch version. The VW-derived diesels are economy kings, but do not ignore the cheaper to buy petrol models.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	****
Looks and image	***
Space	****
Value	****
Running costs	****
Reliability	****
Quality	****

HYUNDAI GETZ



REPLACED last year by the stylish i20, the Getz signalled Hyundai's arrival on the European market, with a thoroughly modern supermini. It does not excel in any area really, but neither does the Korean car fall short anywhere either. Sold in three and five-door form with a five-year warranty, it has some engines in road tax band-B, including an efficient diesel. Securing a good deal – with some warranty intact – should not be hard either, though reliability is not a worry.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	***
Looks and image	****
Space	****
Value	****
Running costs	****
Reliability	****
Quality	****

NISSAN MICRA



BORING Nissan? Well, the current Micra has blown that myth apart (pictured). This is the supermini that says you don't have to conform to style to be space-efficient and you don't need a French badge to be chic – although Renault now owns Nissan. The Micra still turns heads and looks 'right' in three or five-door form. It's affordable and reliable, available with excellent diesels and marketed with stylish trim in the dearer versions. There are even some performance models.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	****
Looks and image	****
Space	****
Value	****
Running costs	****
Reliability	****
Quality	****

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125 in Stock

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Cash Price	£7,999	Total amount payable	£9,409.64	36 monthly payments	£99.41	
Deposit	£2,899	Total charge for credit	£1,410.64	Excess mileage charge per mile		
Final payment [^]	£2,931.88	Mileage per annum	6,000	11 .9	% APR	
£195 Credit Facility Fee is included.^A £95 Completion Fee is included in the Final Payment.						

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DEFEAT: Dover battled but lost against Wimbledon

RUGBY

Sharks title bid dented by Dons

Wimbledon 11 Dover 5

A NARROW defeat at Wimbledon on Saturday put a severe dent in Dover's London 1 South title aspirations.

With leaders Gravesend securing a comprehensive victory against Cobham on the same day, the Dover Sharks slipped five points behind their Kent rivals in the race for automatic promotion

for automatic promotion.

After only three minutes, the visitors failed to secure their scrum at the base and Wimbledon touched down for the simplest of gifts with the extras missed.

The Sharks had a chance to put points on the board four minutes later, but a penalty was missed. The hosts had a prop sin-binned after 25 minutes and Dover took advantage with a quick tap from five-metres, allowing Ben Murray to touch down for an unconverted score.

The visitor's best chance to increase the lead was minutes later from another five-metre scrum but they failed to reach the line and the ball was dropped.

At the final close of the half, Wimbledon charged down a kick and Dover were caught in possession, allowing the home side to take advantage with a penalty.

The second-half saw Dover start on the back foot with Jon Foster sin binned and Wimbledon notching another penalty.

Needing a converted try, Dover put pressure on in the last five minutes and the ball was eventually spread wide with Blair Charge touching down near the posts, only for the score to be disallowed for a forward pass. There was a mixed reaction to the decision but in truth Wimbledon deserved their victory.







ON TARGET: Striker Adam Birchall (left) rounds Maidenhead goalkeeper Chris Tardif for Dover's opener and is congratulated by his team-mates

Pictures SIMON HARRIS

Athletic forget their lines after Birchall's early strike

FOOTBALL

BY TOM HOWARD

Dover Athletic 1

Birchall

Maidenhead United 1

Collins F



DOVER Athletic slipped out of the play-offs after failing to beat struggling Maidenhead at Crabble.

Andy Hessenthaler's side dropped to seventh in Blue Square South and travel to Bishop's Stortford on Saturday knowing they need to pick up at least a point to stay in touch with the division's top five.

It all started so well for the hosts on Saturday when striker Adam Birchall opened the scoring after two minutes when he latched onto a long ball from goalkeeper Ross Flitney before rounding the Maidenhead stopper and slotting into an unguarded net.

The home side dominated the remainder of the half and five minutes before the break, should have doubled their advantage through Birchall. Sammy Moore's defence-splitting pass found the striker in the area, who twisted and turned before should properly over

turned, before shooting narrowly over.

The Whites started the second-half similar to the first and had another good chance to extend their lead three minutes after the restart. Birchall's cross from the right wing was met by the towering Olly Schulz, but his header was cleared off the line.

With Dover searching for a second they left a gap in their defence and Maidenhead exploited it by scoring an equaliser. A defensive mix up on the right wing allowed Sam Collins to place a lob over Flitney and into the net.

Only a stunning save from Chris Tardif kept out Shaun Welford's goal-bound header on 56 minutes, while the visitors almost grabbed all three points when the lively Collins managed to beat Danny Walder before his low drive was well saved by Flitney. Hessenthaler introduced Luis Cumbers, on loan from Gillingham, and Hakeem Adelakun to try and find a winner, but the game petered out in the final ten minutes, leaving Dover with only a point.

A disappointed Hessenthaler said: "It was a very lethargic and poor game all round to be fair. We had a lot of the ball, but there was no real quality from us. I didn't think we played well in the first-half and it got worse in the second-half, which was disappointing. It was a very

Dover Athletic starting XI



Subs used: Adelakun (Moore 62), Cumbers (Collin 62), Abnett (Birchall 81)

flat afternoon, we huffed and puffed, but these are the games we should be winning."

The Whites travel to Bishop's Stortford on Saturday and Hessenthaler is calling on his side to put the weekend's performance behind them, or risk dropping out of the play-off picture.

"If we go there and win the game, all of a sudden the table changes again," he said. "Bishop's Stortford have got a few problems with finances and players going out and coming in, but you can't underestimate these teams. We know what we have got to do and that's to go there and get a result. We cannot afford to slip out of contention for these play-offs."

Crystal Palace midfielder Hakeem Adelakun has extended his loan stay at Crabble by another month.

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Invicta shell-shocked as Bourne spring a surprise

FOOTBALL

BY STEVE TERVET

Sittingbourne 2

Akhazzan 24 pen, Bradbrook 81

Folkestone Invicta 0



FOR only the third time this season, Folkestone Invicta must bounce back from a league defeat after coming back from Sittingbourne with nothing.

A game which pitted the Ryman South's two meanest defences against each other was always likely to be short on goalmouth action and so it proved, as the opening 20 minutes took on a cat-and-mouse feel with neither side prepared to show their hand.

Indeed, it took a fine piece of play for the hosts to unlock the Folkestone door in the 24th minute. Karl Dent's neat control and slide-rule pass was perfectly weighted for Hicham Akhazzan, who tumbled under the challenge of Micheal Everitt and was awarded a penalty. The winger dusted himself down and coolly sent Jack Delo the wrong way from the spot to

open the scoring.

The deadlock was broken but the game remained a cagey affair until Deren Ibrahim



SAVED: Darren Smith failed to score with this free-kick

did well to hold Darren Smith's low shot at the second attempt.

Ibrahim's afternoon was to be cut short two minutes into the second-half, however. Simon Austin, attempting to latch onto James Everitt's return pass, launched himself twofooted at Ibrahim, leaving the goalkeeper stricken in the six-yard box and earning Austin a straight red card.

It was eight minutes before Ibrahim was stretchered from the field in obvious discomfort, leaving midfielder Billy Manners the unenviable task of keeping the leaders at bay for the remainder of the game.

However, the Brickies soaked up Invicta's

Folkestone starting XI



Subs used: Williams (Dickson 50), Spiller (M Everitt 80), Nguyen (Jackson 90)

pressure and killed the game off in the 81st minute when Elie Kayembe's header down was picked up by Bradbrook, who curled the ball low beyond Delo's despairing dive.

Folkestone manager Neil Cugley said: "I thought we dominated the play, we kept the ball and we played some good stuff. However, our problem all year has been that we don't hurt teams enough in the box.

"Simon Austin got unnecessarily sent off - I thought he was going to nick it past the keeper and get us a penalty but instead he went in two-footed and the referee sent him off. I thought it was a fair decision.'

With Austin set to serve a three-game suspension, Cugley will be forced to re-shuffle his small squad and in Ngu Nguyen, he has brought in some midfield cover.

The Vietnamese winger had been training with Dover Athletic and, having joined Invicta on a non-contract basis, made his debut from the bench late on in Saturday's defeat.



THRILLER: Folkestone just missed out on a memorable win

Folkestone surge too little too late

Crowborough 21 Folkestone 19

FOLKESTONE were on the receiving end of a purple patch from Crowborough but fought back to fall just short of a thrilling win on Saturday.

Lee Jeffery's side trailed 21-7 at half-time but hit back after the break to get within one score of their opponents. A late penalty could have sealed victory, but the visitors opted to

run the ball instead of kicking for goal.

The Stones started well and Adam Tolman continued his superb form with the opening try, bursting up the right wing on a solo run which carved open the home defence. Chris Petley added the conversion to give the visitors a 7-0 lead.

Control

Crowborough then responded with an irresistible spell which saw them run in three unanswered tries to take control of the game. Their first came after a small game of aerial ping pong, before the hosts' backs switched the ball from left to right to score.

Poor defence allowed the home team to score their next try with another move where the backs quickly moved the ball across the pitch to score. Crowborough struck again shortly afterwards, with all three tries converted to give them a commanding 21-7 lead.

The Stones had to defend well to keep Crowborough out early in the second-half, but they gradually grew into the game. A penalty in the home 22 saw Simon Harris take a quick tap and although he was held up before the line, the ball was recycled on to Tolman for his second try. Petley added the conversion.

Drew Woolford reduced the arrears to just two points but significantly the conversion was missed. In the dying minutes they had the chance to complete the comeback, winning a penalty. Harris opted to run, which proved a

gamble too far as Crowborough hung on.
Folkestone play Medway at the New
Burlington Ground on Saturday.

LEAGUE TABLES (not including midweek games) **BLUE SQUARE SOUTH**

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Newport County	29	21	7	1	+48	70
2 Chelmsford City	31	15	7	9	+6	52
3 Staines Town	30	13	11	6	+16	50
4 Thurrock	29	14	8	7	+15	50
5 Braintree Town	28	13	ñ	4	+11	50
6 Bath City	30	13	10	7	+14	49
7 Dover Athletic	30	14	7	9	+11	49
8 Wokina	29	13	6	10	+2	45
9 Welling United	30	12	8	10	+7	44
10 Havant & W'looville	28	11	11 7	6	+3	44
11 Eastleigh	29	12	7	10	+11	43
12 Bromley	30	12	7	11	+3	43
13 Basingstoke Town	30	12	6	12	-4	42
14 St Albans City	30	11	6	13	-7	39
15 Dorchester Town	31	9	8	14	-13	35
16 Bishop's Stortford	31	9	7	15	-12	34
17 Maidenhead United	28	8	9	11	0	33
18 Hampton & R'mond	26	7	7	12	-13	28
19 Worcester City	29	6	7	16	-9	25
20 Lewes	29	4	ii	14	-17	23
21 Weston-super-Mare	30	4	6	20	-25	18
22 Weymouth	29	4	5	20	-47	17

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

1 Folkestone Invicta	26	18	5	3	+20	59
2 Croydon Athletic	26	16	6	4	+31	59 54
3 Fleet Town	27	15	3	9	+17	48
4 Godalming Town	25	15	3	7	+15	48
5 Worthing	27	15	3	9	+13	48
6 Walton & Hersham	26	13	5	8	+7	44
7 Sittingbourne	25	12	3 5 5	8	+16	41
8 Burgess Hill Town	27	11	8	8	+7	41
8 Burgess Hill Town 9 Horsham YMCA	29	9	11	9	+5	38
10 Leatherhead	25	11	4	10	+]]	37
11 Dulwich Hamlet	28	9	10	9	0 -7	37
12 Merstham	27	10	6	11		36
13 Chatham Town	28	11	3	14	-11	36
14 Ramsgate	26	9	8	9	-2	35
15 Metropolitan Police	25	9	7	9	+10	34
16 Corinthian-Casuals	28	10	3	15	-11	33
17 Whyteleafe	26	9	5	12	+2	32
18 Chipstead	28	7	6	15	-14	27
19 Walton Casuals	27	6	6	15	-14	24
20 Eastbourne Town	28	4	9	15	-29	21
21 Ashford Town	25	4	8	13	-32	20
22 Whitetahlo Town	25	6	2	17	-34	20

KENT LEAGUE PRE	MIER	DIVIS	SION			
1 Faversham Town	20	16	2	2	+38	50
2 Herne Bay	17	13	1	3	+19 +27	40 31 30
3 Hythe Town	15	9	4	2	+27	31
4 Beckenham Town	18	9	3	6	+12	30
5 Erith & Belvedere	19	9	3	7	-3	30
6 Erith Town	17	8	3 5	6	+6	27 26
7 Greenwich Borough	18	7	5	6 5	+3	26
8 Sevenoaks Town	15	7	3	5	+3	24 22 22
9 Deal Town	15	6	4	5	- 3 -6	22
10 Tunbridge Wells	19	5	7	7	-6	22
11 Sporting Bengal Utd	21	6	4	11	-23	22
12 Holmesdale	17	5 5	2	10	-4 -5	17 16
13 Norton Sports	14		1	8	-5	16
14 Fisher	20	3	4	13	-25	13
15 Corinthian	18	3	3	12	-20	12
16 Lordswood	17	1	7	9	-20	10

(Saturday): Blue Square South: Bishop's Stortford v Dover Athletic; Ryman Division On South: Folkestone Invicta v Croydon Athletic; Kent League Premier Division: Deal Town Sporting Bengal United; Faversham Town v Hythe Town

Crunch time for Hythe after fourth win on trot

FOOTBALL

Hythe Town 3 Erith Town 1

HYTHE Town climbed to their highest league position since September as they kept their faint title hopes alive with victory against Erith Town on Saturday.

The win, Hythe's fourth successive tri-umph in the league, lifted Scott Porter's side up to third place ahead of a season-defining four days. Town visit the two sides above them, travelling to Herne Bay tonight before facing leaders Faversham Town on Saturday, knowing any slip up will slash their Kent League title chances.

Impressive

A blip in the autumn, coupled with lengthy cup runs, have seen Hythe playing catch-up to their rivals for months. Town's form since has been impressive, with Saturday's win against Erith stretching their unbeaten run to nine games - seven of which have been won.

Victory looked far from secure when, following a slow start from Hythe, Lee Morgan put the visitors in front midway through the

Nerves at Reachfields were calmed by Craig Thompson's equaliser five minutes before the break. It was the striker's second goal since signing dual registration forms from neighbours Folkestone Invicta.

Thompson was involved in Hythe's second goal just after the hour mark, which saw Erith skipper Dean Kearley put through his



VITAL: Scott Porter's side face a tough week

own net. The victory was not sealed until the 87th minute, when Steven Ward scored his first goal for the club.

It set Hythe up for a big week, although the trip to Herne Bay could be in doubt due to a waterlogged pitch. Log on to www.yourshepway.co.uk for the details.

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